

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

29 NOVEMBER 1982

PLO

PCC Meeting -- At the end of its 25-26 November meeting in Damascus, the PLO Central Council (PCC) issued a statement declaring that U.S. President Ronald Reagan's Middle East peace plan does not fulfill the Palestinian people's "inalienable rights" to self-determination and an independent state. The statement, which was read by Palestine National Council (PNC) Chairman Khalid al-Fahum and broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio, also stressed the need for Egypt to rejoin Arab ranks by breaking with the Camp David accords and announced that the PLO leadership would immediately start intensive consultations to draw up political, administrative and military plans and fix a venue and date for the planned PNC meeting.

PLO Deputy Military Commander Khalil al-Wazir subsequently revealed in a Radio Monte Carlo interview that the PCC had stressed that the PLO should pay more attention to the situation of Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, which will be the main arena of struggle against Israel in the forthcoming stage. The PCC also talked about the need to adopt a firm stand against "unilateral political trends or moves in the occupied territories," emphasizing that the PLO is the sole organization leading Palestinians everywhere and that anyone who violates Palestinian unity will be "confronted," Al-Wazir added.

Rejection of Recognition -- A 27 November Voice of PLO radio commentary declared that the PLO "categorically and collectively" rejects the idea of unilaterally recognizing Israel. While the PLO cannot ignore "international variables," the radio said, Palestinian military action remains a primary alternative, supplementing political and diplomatic action.

'Arafat Activities -- After attending the PCC and related meetings in Damascus, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat traveled overland to Jordan, where he met with King Husayn on 27 November, according to Amman radio. 'Arafat and Husayn discussed the work of the Arab League's seven-man committee as well as Jordanian-PLO relations, the radio said. During his visit, 'Arafat told a journalist that the PLO will be happy if the PNC meeting is held in Amman, Radio Monte Carlo reported. While in Damascus, 'Arafat met with the Soviet ambassador to Syria, Baghdad Voice of PLO noted. The PLO leader also attended a eulogy ceremony for assassinated Brig Gen Sa'd Sayil, sharing a platform with Syrian officials and lauding the steadfastness of Syrian and PLO-Lebanese forces, according to SANA.

Arab Comment on PCC Meeting -- Syria's daily TISHRIN said the PCC's resolutions have dealt a "slap in the face" to those who are calling for capitulation and recognition of Israel, Damascus radio reported. On the other hand, Egypt's AL-AHRAM expressed "astonishment" over the PCC's rejection of the Reagan initiative, according to MENA. Meanwhile, a Riyadh radio commentary on the PCC meeting said PLO and Arab political pressure has caused the United States to recognize openly the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and propose negotiable and positive concepts on their future that should not be disregarded.

Jordan on Negotiations -- Jordan will not join any peace negotiations with Israel on the Palestinian issue without the PLO's consent, the Jordanian information minister announced in an interview reported by Amman radio on 26 November.

Arab Committee

The Arab League's seven-member committee issued a statement announcing the cancellation of its scheduled 1-2 December meetings with British officials in London, Rabat radio reported on 27 November. The Algerian Foreign Ministry subsequently announced in a statement transmitted by APS that the committee's decision not to go to London is because of the British Government's refusal to receive a PLO representative. Palestinian sources cited by the Moroccan paper AL-ALAM, revealed that the cancellation also stemmed from Britain's insistence that the committee issue a statement confirming its commitment to the Fes summit resolutions, recognizing Israel, denouncing terrorism and declaring its readiness to resolve the issue only by peaceful means, MAP reported. Other Palestinian sources cited in an earlier report by INA described the United Kingdom's behavior as "tactless."

Arab-Soviet Bloc Relations

The Beirut-based Kuwaiti magazine AL-MAJALIS stated that CPSU Central Committee Secretary General Yuriy Andropov will visit an Arab country "shortly," if there is a shift in Soviet Middle East policy, QNA reported. Noting that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal will participate in the Arab seven-member committee's visit to the Soviet Union, KUNA pointed out that this will be the first official visit by a senior Saudi official to the Soviet Union.

Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu arrived in Kuwait on a 2-day official visit, KUNA reported on 27 November. A Romanian-Kuwaiti joint statement issued at the end of the visit and transmitted by KUNA noted that the amir of Kuwait has accepted an invitation to visit Romania.

Lebanon

Lebanese-Israeli Negotiations -- The Israeli Cabinet decided unanimously on 28 November that Israeli-Lebanese negotiations are of a political-security nature and will include arrangements to prevent any possible activity from Lebanon that would harm Israel and its citizens, the Israeli Cabinet secretary announced in a statement broadcast by Jerusalem radio. The Cabinet also stipulated that the heads of the two delegations will be authorized civilian representatives and that negotiations will be conducted in Beirut and Jerusalem. According to the radio, this formulation represents a compromise proposal by Prime Minister Menahem Begin to bridge a gap in the Cabinet between those, like the defense and foreign ministers, who oppose concessions and other ministers who favor them. The Cabinet accordingly accepted Begin's proposal that Israel show flexibility on the level of Lebanese representation in the talks, but insist on holding the negotiations in Beirut and Jerusalem.

However, Beirut radio described the new Israeli position as "hardline" and stated that Lebanon will not fall into the Israeli "trap", whether it be the designation of Jerusalem and Beirut as the venues for the negotiations or other Israeli conditions. Lebanon adheres to its demand for Israel's unconditional withdrawal and for the Lebanese Government's complete sovereignty over all its territory as well as the "Lebanization" of security throughout the country, the radio stated. Earlier, in a 27 November meeting with U.S. Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs Morris Draper, President Amin al-Jumayyil informed the United States that Lebanon absolutely rejects the Israeli stand as conveyed to it by Draper, Beirut radio reported. The Lebanese consider the Israeli demands to be aimed at retaining a military presence in Lebanon, the radio noted. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, who attended the meeting with Draper, said afterward in remarks reported by Voice of Lebanon radio that the Israeli position had not changed in any way sufficient to allow the Lebanese Government to start the contacts it is seeking.

Phalangist Commander Remarks -- The commander of the Phalangist Lebanese Forces, Fadi Afram, declared in a Phalangist Party anniversary speech reported by Voice of Lebanon radio that the continuation of the state of enmity between Lebanon and Israel will delay the withdrawal of the foreigners from Lebanon and will keep the security situation there unstable. Asserting that the Phalangists will henceforth not permit any areas to become the property of parties or communities, Afram said the only reason for the Phalangist presence in the Ash-Shuf hills is to remove any ambiguity about the identity of this area.

Military Situation -- Three IDF soldiers were wounded by a mine north of Bhamdun, IDF radio announced on 28 November. Beirut radio said the IDF has brought armor, artillery and sophisticated radar equipment into the Al-Baruk mountain area.

Israel

Alignment Leadership -- Jerusalem television said Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres informed party activists that he is willing to resign the Alignment leadership in favor of President Yitzhaq Navon if the latter wishes to return to political life; however, Peres subsequently declared that his remarks were taken out of context by the television, according to Jerusalem radio.

West Bank -- The defense minister has approved the appointment of Col Shlomo Ilya as head of the civilian administration in Judaea and Samaria, THE JERUSALEM POST reported. Meanwhile, Jerusalem radio reported that Arab students demonstrated in Ramallah and Nabulus to mark the 29 November anniversary of the UN partition resolution.

Egypt

Foreign Relations -- Egypt wants normal, not lukewarm, relations with Israel, Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz announced in a press interview reported by MENA. Earlier, the Kuwaiti paper AL-WATAN reported that Egypt and the Soviet Union are expected to soon normalize relations, according to INA. Following his talks with French President Francois Mitterrand, President Husni Mubarak met with Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri in Aswan on 27 November, MENA noted.

As-Sadat Travel Ban -- The ethics court ruled that 'Isamat as-Sadat and some members of his family will not be allowed to leave the country because they have committed "harmful" acts and are a danger to society, MENA reported.

Libya-OAU

Following the second failure to convene an OAU summit in Tripoli because of the lack of a quorum, Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi praised the 31 African leaders who had attended and blamed the failure of the summit on those who "lacked the courage" to come to Tripoli, JANA reported. Noting that the failure to achieve a quorum resulted from the dispute over Chad's representation, Rabat radio said many of the African delegations blame Al-Qadhdhafi for his "stubborn" attitude during attempts to save the summit.

Iran

The government is studying proposals to allow greater freedom of travel so that those who wish to leave the country may do so, "provided they are not connected to anything," Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi announced in an interview broadcast by Tehran radio.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi forces attacked enemy positions in the Maysan sector early on 28 November, killing 756 Iranians, an Iraqi Armed Forces communique broadcast by Bagdad radio claimed. However, Tehran radio said the Iranians held their positions and killed or wounded over 450 Iraqis. Iran also claimed to have shot down an Iraqi helicopter on 27 November and an Iraqi jet on 26 November, according to IRNA and a military communique carried by the radio.

Afghanistan

Kabul Bombing -- Two bombs exploded in Kabul on 24 November, killing 4 people and injuring 23 others, Kabul radio reported. The radio said over 44 private shops were destroyed by the bombs, which it blamed on "criminal counterrevolutionaries." According to a related AFP report, the explosions were at a building housing Khalq and Parcham Party members in the modern Pamir area of the capital.

Pilot Defects -- An Afghan civil airline pilot has requested political asylum in the FRG, DPA reported on 28 November.

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East and Africa

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29 November 1982

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

1

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

Palestine Central Council Rejects Reagan Plan	A 1
Al-Fahum Statement [Voice of PLO]	A 1
Khalil Al-Wazir Interview [Monte Carlo]	A 2
'Arafat, Palestinian Leaders Meet 26 Nov [Monte Carlo]	A 4
Abu az-Za'im on PLO-U.S. Dialogue, Egypt [Monte Carlo]	A 4
PLO Radio Reports 'Arafat's Remarks at Rally [Voice of PLO]	A 7
Arab Committee Cancels Talks With UK Officials [Rabat]	A 7
UK Stipulations [MAP]	A 7
Palestinian Source's Report [INA]	A 7
Ad-Dajani on Strengthening PLO-Jordan Relations [QNA]	A 8
PLO Military Structure Sound [Doha]	A 8
PLO's 'Arafat Meets USSR Ambassador in Damascus [Voice of PLO]	A 9
PLO Radio Rejects Calls To Recognize Israel	A 9

ARABIAN PENINSULA**KUWAIT**

Romanian President Arrives for 2-Day Visit	C 1
Meets With Amir	C 1
Meets Heir Apparent	C 1
Joint Communique Issued	C 2
Departs 28 November	C 4

OMAN

Information Minister on Agreement With PDRY	C 5
---	-----

QATAR

Heir Apparent Receives PLO's Mahmud 'Abbas	C 5
'Abbas Meets Oil Minister	C 6
Departs 27 November	C 6

SAUDI ARABIA

Officials Expected To Hold Talks With Andropov [KUNA]	C 6
---	-----

PDRY

YAR Delegation Arrives in Aden 28 November	C 7
--	-----

EGYPT

President Mitterrand Arrives in Cairo 24 November	D 1
Delivers Speech at Banquet	D 1
Mubarak's Banquet Speech	D 4
Joint News Conference	D 9
Mitterrand's Aswan Statement	D 16
Departs 26 November	D 18
'Ali Meets 'Important Palestinian Personality'	D 18
AL-ANBA' Report on Imminent Cabinet Reshuffle [29 Nov]	D 18

LEBANON

Al-Wazzan Notes Israeli Obstacles, U.S. Role	G 1
Israeli Demands for Military Presence Rejected	G 1
Lebanese-Palestinian Relations Reviewed [AL-MADINAH 22 Nov]	G 2
AS-SAFIR Interviews Al-Wazzan on Issues [28 Nov]	G 3
Bomb Killing Bashir al-Jumayyil Said 'Imported' [AFP]	G 4
Al-Jumayyil Receives Ambassador's Credentials	G 4

ISRAEL

Cabinet Drops Demand for Ministerial-Level Talks	I 1
Meridor Statement	I 1
No Immediate Negotiations Seen	I 2
'Sources' on Signal to U.S.	I 3
Funds Approved for War	I 3
Sharon, Shamir Visits Approved	I 4
Prime Minister Begin To Visit U.S. in January	I 4
Shamir Holds News Conference, Departs for Zaire	I 4
Commission Issues Communique; Reactions Reported	I 5
[THE JERUSALEM POST 25 Nov]	
Begin Not To Appear Before Commission Again	I 9
[THE JERUSALEM POST 26 Nov]	
Eytan, Yaron May Risk Criminal Proceedings	I 10
[THE JERUSALEM POST 26 Nov]	
Legal Aspects of Commission Warnings Analyzed	I 11
[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 25 Nov]	
Likud Said Launching Campaign on Commission	I 12
[DAVAR 28 Nov]	
Labor Party Reacts	I 13
Peres Said Willing To Step Down in Navon's Favor	I 14
Peres Reacts to Report	I 14
Peres Warns Against Labor Party Infighting	I 14
Yosef Harif Criticizes 'Shultz Plan' [MA'ARIV 24 Nov]	I 14
Poll Notes 'Marked Decline' in Likud Support	I 16
[THE JERUSALEM POST 23 Nov]	

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

Attempt To Convene 19th OAU Summit Fails	P 1
Moi Continues as Chairman [Nairobi]	P 1
Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Leaders [JANA]	P 1
Declaration on South Africa [Tripoli]	P 4
'Tripoli Declaration' Issued [Tripoli]	P 6
Declaration on Namibia [JANA]	P 7

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Foreign Ministry: Arab Talks With UK Cancelled Q 1

TUNISIA

Foreign Minister on French Middle East Role Q 1
[Beirut MONDAY MORNING 22-28 Nov]

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Nunoo-Mensah Resigns, Replaced by Rawlings T 1

UPPER VOLTA

Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo Forms New Government T 1
People's Salvation Council Created T 1
Provincial Council Dissolved T 1
New Government Announced T 2
Permanent Secretariat Formed T 3

PALESTINE CENTRAL COUNCIL REJECTS REAGAN PLAN

Al-Fahum Statement

JN261700 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1600 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] The PLO Central Council ended its meeting this morning. The council began its meeting last night under Khalid al-Fahum, Palestine National Council chairman, in the presence of Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. At the conclusion of the meeting, Al-Fahum made the following statement:

The PLO Central Council held a meeting on Thursday, 25 November 1982. The council discussed at length the current Arab and Palestinian issues and developments in the region.

1. The council expressed pride and appreciation for the stand of our people inside the occupied territory, who affirmed their adherence to the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, for their adherence to their firm national demands -- particularly their right to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent state on their national soil -- for their rejection of all the attempts to tamper with these rights and for their commitment to Palestinian representation solely through the PLO.

2. The council expressed the view that the Reagan plan does not fulfill the inalienable rights of our people under the leadership of the PLO because the Reagan plan ignores the right of self-determination for our Palestinian people and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state under PLO leadership, without which no permanent and just solution can be reached for the Middle East problem and its central Palestinian issue.

3. Based on decisions by Palestinian National Councils, Arab summits and the will of our Palestinian people in the occupied territory and in the diaspora, the council affirms that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territory; that it is the sole spokesman for these people.

4. The council members expressed high appreciation for the sacrifices and heroism of the Arab people of Egypt in defense of Palestine and the Arab nation, and reiterated that the Camp David agreements were the principal means by which Israel and the United States attempted to isolate Egypt from the Arab nation. The council stressed the need for Egypt to return to the Arab ranks and for the Arabs to return to Egypt, away from Camp David.

5. The council stressed the importance of Palestinian national unity. The members were unanimous that this unity is our strong bastion of struggle and is responsible for our epic of steadfastness in Lebanon. The council stressed the importance of this unity so as to realize our people's inalienable national rights. The members also affirmed that the attempts of the hostile forces to strike at national unity within the framework of the PLO will be doomed to failure.

It has been decided that intensive meetings will begin as of the morning of 26 November, in which the Executive Committee chairman and members will take part. These meetings will also be attended by the Presidium of the Palestine National Council and the secretaries general of all the resistance groups in order to draw up political, organizational and military plans to face the next stage and to fix a venue and date for the Palestine National Council's 16th session.

Khalil al-Wazir Interview

JN261932 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1740 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Interview with Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution forces -- identified by his nom de guerre Abu Jihad -- by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris on 25 November, carried in the weekly program "It Happened Tomorrow" -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Will you outline your own assessment of the PLO Central Council [PCC] meeting which was concluded at dawn today, taking into consideration that I have learned from some sources participating in the meeting that there has been no agreement on any of the basic political issues on the meeting agenda?

[Answer] First, let us talk about the atmosphere that prevailed prior to the PCC meeting. There are some controversial issues in our Palestinian arena. Before talking about these issues, we must tell all those who voiced apprehension over Palestinian national unity that everyone has showed great concern about preserving it. Even when some among us talk sharply and enthusiastically about a certain issue, they do this out of their concern to define the facts in order to avoid any suspicion. Sometimes our people may hear contradictory statements in our Palestinian arena. This should be considered a healthy phenomenon which reflects our deep concern to maintain a democratic dialogue, something which makes us unique in the region and of which we are proud. As Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said at the beginning of the PCC session, we are fighting in a democratic oasis, which is an element of power, not weakness. Therefore, when we sometimes have different opinions, it does not mean our ranks are split or we are scattered.

This PCC meeting opened in the presence of representatives and correspondents of various Arab and foreign television networks. It started by observing 1 minute of silence in honor of the memory of our dear martyred brother, Maj Gen Sa'd Sayil, who was martyred following the PCC's last session in a treacherous attack while he was carrying out his military duty in Al-Biqa'. At the beginning of the meeting, the PCC chairman and Brother Abu 'Ammar spoke about the late martyr. They reconfirmed our pledge to remain faithful to the martyr by continuing to raise high the banners of struggle and shoulder their responsibilities. The PCC members were invited to participate in a celebration commemorating the 40th day after the martyrdom of Sa'd Sayil, a celebration which is now being held at the Damascus University auditorium.

After that, Brother Abu 'Ammar presented a comprehensive report on all the moves and meetings held during the PCC's last session. He talked about the contacts held with Arab and international sides regarding the situation in Lebanon as well as the conditions of our people living in the camps of West Beirut and southern Lebanon. Abu 'Ammar reported on his visit to Jordan, on confederation and on authorization. He clarified that the PLO is very eager to establish the closest and most distinguished relations with Jordan in order to serve the interests of our joint struggle against the Zionist enemy and the future of our people. As for confederation, Abu 'Ammar made it clear that our people are looking first to establish their own independent Palestinian state. Afterward, the Palestinians will be the ones who care most for unity and other honorable steps.

Regarding authorization, Abu 'Ammar said: For our part, we did not talk about the issue of authorization and, furthermore, the Jordanian side did not present any request for authorization.

Talking about Egypt, Abu 'Ammar explained that the Egyptian regime had had several opportunities that would have helped it change the Camp David policy. Among them was the fact that when Israel attacked the Palestinian Revolution and the Lebanese and launched a war against them, broke its promise to Egypt that there would be no more wars. Another opportunity was when the enemy besieged Beirut. A third opportunity was when the enemy carried out the Sabra and Shatila massacres. A fourth was when the regime could have reached Palestinian fighters following their exodus from Beirut. The Egyptian regime, however, did not take advantage of any of those opportunities and did not rise to the level of events. It was indeed unable to make any decision.

Anyway, there was a long talk at the PCC meeting about how we can further entrench our relations with the Egyptian people through their nationalist movement. The Egyptian people have demonstrated their national belonging during the battle of normalizing relations [with Israel] and during their support for the Palestinian Revolution during the Lebanese war.

Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] then talked about his report on the seven-member committee and the French and U.S. position during the committee's meetings. Abu al-Lutf also talked about the Palestinian delegation's meeting with USSR Foreign Minister Gromyko. The PCC then began a lengthy discussion in which some PCC members talked about all the issues submitted. This discussion was characterized by objectivity, sincerity and eagerness to maintain the unity of the Palestinian stand.

From all the dialogues held we can conclude there were a host of issues which, I think, were discussed in the PCC meeting. These issues can be summed up as follows:

1. An assessment was made of the situation after the war in Lebanon in order to draw lessons from it. The committee, which is now meeting and which consists of the PLO Executive Committee, the Palestine National Council office, the general secretaries and a number of Palestinian leaders, will continue discussion of this issue.
2. A study was made of stands in light of the resolutions adopted by the National Council and of the political program.
3. The fact was stressed that the main arena of struggle against our enemy in the forthcoming stage is that of the occupied territories. In this regard, there was lengthy discussion of the need to give more attention to the issues of our people in the occupied territories on all levels as well as the need to bolster the unity of the national institutions in the occupied territories and to protect them from any trends which might affect the continuation of this unity. Talks also tackled the need to adopt a firm stand against any unilateral political trends or moves in the occupied territories, stressing that the PLO is the body which leads the political and military struggle of our people everywhere. Anyone who violates our people's unity will be confronted. There is no doubt that our revolution is capable of this confrontation with all means. The need to continue work for national unity and unified action in the occupied territories was also stressed.
4. The conferees stressed that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative [of the Palestinian people] and the only body always authorized by our people to speak on their behalf. This fact did not come about haphazardly, but was established through our people's long political and military struggle. Hence, it is important to stress it at all times.

5. In the international political field, the conferees unanimously declared our people's position on the Reagan plan. They stressed that this plan completely disregards our right to establish a Palestinian state and determine our destiny. They asserted that the U.S. Administration's policy of rejection under Reagan -- as represented in saying no to our independent Palestinian state, no to our people's right to self-determination, no to our legitimate right to our homeland and no to dialogue with the PLO until it recognizes Resolution 242 -- is completely rejected and condemned by our people. This policy is an aggression against our national rights. Our people everywhere must raise their voices against it.

6. The need to bolster cohesion with the Egyptian people's national movement was also discussed, indicating that struggle must continue against the links to the Camp David crime. The more steps the Egyptian regime takes to move away from Camp David, the closer Palestinian and Arab ties will be with Egypt. This is the target for which all the militant Egyptian people are struggling with utmost effort. The scope of this struggle expands day after day.

7. All agreed on the need to entrench our national unity in all political and military fields. National unity is the banner fluttering over the heads of all sons of Palestine who realize what it means. They know that the reply to the challenges posed after the battle of Lebanon is first of all embodied in the cohesion and unity that they can achieve between their forces and fighters, and between their leaderships and cadres inside and outside the occupied territories. After this session there is no doubt this trend will be consolidated.

We would specifically like to say for our people in the occupied territories, Jordan, Lebanon and everywhere that we have no alternative to further adherence to our unity, further struggle and further armed action to preserve our cause against plots and attempts to ignore our rights. We have made great progress along the path of political moves and our Palestinian cause has entered the hearts and consciences of all countries. We must be confident that more patience, perseverance and struggle will lead us to victory when we attain our national independence and establish our independent Palestinian state.

'ARAFAT, PALESTINIAN LEADERS MEET 26 NOV

JN270602 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] Despite the fact that the PLO Central Council has ended its meetings in Damascus, efforts continue to reach an agreement on a unified formula to confront the future.

Yasir 'Arafat presided over a meeting in Damascus last night which was attended by the PLO Executive Committee members and the secretaries general of all the Palestinian resistance factions. During this meeting, which was also attended by Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestine National Council, it was agreed to continue meetings after Yasir 'Arafat returns from visits to Jordan and South Yemen. The meeting lasted more than 4 hours.

ABU AZ-ZA'IM ON PLO-U.S. DIALOGUE, EGYPT

JN261945 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1758 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Interview with 'Arafat envoy to Cairo Abu az-Za'im by Monte Carlo radio correspondent in Cairo Huda Tawfiq carried in the weekly program "It Happened Tomorrow" -- date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] Brother Abu az-Za'im is one of the PLO pillars and a member of the Fatah Revolutionary Council. Brother Abu az-Za'im, you are here in Cairo while important talks are being held between Presidents Mubarak and Mitterrand. You have followed these talks through your meeting with Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

The United States considers that a dialogue between the PLO and the United States can take place if the PLO recognizes Israel. What are your views on the U.S. insistence that this recognition must be declared?

[Answer] We must answer the following question first: Is the United States playing the role of a mediator to solve the Middle East dispute or is it playing the role of protector of Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people and the Arab nation? Does the United States want to achieve peace in the region based on justice or to reach an Arab-Palestinian capitulation to Begin's aggressive and expansionist ambitions? If the United States is a mediator, it cannot, in my opinion, take sides with one against the other. I would like to say that the PLO has taken positive steps toward (?peace). The PLO, through its Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who signed McCloskey's document, said that it recognized all UN decisions on the Palestinian issue. When Reagan came out with his plan, the PLO did not reject it the way Begin rejected it. It said that the plan contained positive points but did not express all our Palestinian people's rights, not even the rights of the Palestinian people, because it ignored the right of PLO representation and self-determination. It ignored the role of the PLO, which is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

As for the Arab peace plan, the PLO has committed itself to this plan and is currently working with the Arab states and its friends in the world for its implementation. During the honorable fighting against the Zionist enemy in Lebanon, agreements were reached in Beirut leading to the evacuation of the Palestinian forces from Lebanon. Israel did not abide by these agreements, which were supported by the United States and which U.S. envoy Philip Habib helped reach. Israel did not abide by these agreements. Following the evacuation of the Palestinians, Israel carried out the Sabra and Shatila massacres. The United States said: Remove the settlements. What has the United States done in this regard? Did the United States prevent Israel from building settlements? Did it move one step toward the Palestinians in its capacity as a mediator? Did it take any step to encourage the Palestinians to continue in the peace process? No, it did not do anything in this regard. The United States demands PLO recognition of Israel and does not demand Israeli recognition of the PLO. In my view this is illogical and unfair. I think all peace-loving forces consider this an injustice to the Palestinian people.

[Question] What are the PLO steps toward peace?

[Answer] The PLO has taken effective, large-scale steps toward peace, as I have outlined in the previous answer. As for the Arab peace plan, the PLO has accepted it as an Arab strategy to realize the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. I think the United States (?does not want) a dialogue either with the Palestinians directly or with the Arab delegation, which includes a PLO representative. The Arab delegation went to the United States. This delegation included Brother Khalid al-Hasan. He did not meet with Shultz or Reagan. This U.S. stand in our view is biased toward Israel. Therefore, I say if the United States wants a dialogue, it has two alternatives: It can either hold direct talks with the Palestinians through the PLO or talk with the Arabs, who include a PLO representative within a joint Arab delegation. The United States can do either one but I think the lack of dialogue is not a result of the Palestinian position but of the U.S. position.

[Question] Brother Abu az-Za'im: if matters regarding recognition become complicated and if negotiations begin on the basis of the currently submitted initiatives, there will be the problem of Palestinian representation in these negotiations. What is your opinion about Palestinian and PLO representation? Will this take place through a Jordanian delegation, Arab delegation or a representative acceptable to the PLO?

[Answer] In fact, whatever formulas there are, the formula of the PLO's legitimate representation of the Palestinian people cannot be cancelled in any stage or under any circumstances whatsoever. The PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people. As long as the PLO is required to negotiate and is entitled to negotiate, how can it be deprived of its right to negotiate? In my opinion, this Arab delegation will not enjoy the right of representation unless it includes a Palestinian official from the PLO. There must be a leading PLO envoy in any Jordanian or other delegation because we will not concede our right to represent our people under any circumstances whatsoever. Under the condition that there is a joint Arab delegation in which the Palestinians are represented, we, as I have said, have agreed to the Fes plan and the Arab strategy. We are now working according to an Arab strategy. This does not harm us at all but strengthens our stand because, as Arabs, we have a unified stand.

[Question] Brother Abu az-Za'im, there is much talk about disagreements within the PLO which threaten its unity and entity. What can you say about this?

[Answer] First, I would like to say that this is being said by the enemies of the revolution and of the PLO. We have been hearing this for 10 years and even since the establishment of the PLO. It must be clear that we deal with one another in the PLO on a democratic basis. Every official has the right to express his opinion.

[Question] Brother Abu az-Za'im, your presence here in Cairo when the PLO Central Council [PCC] is being held in Damascus at a very sensitive time for the cause indicates that contacts between the PLO and Egypt are intensifying. What is the true relationship between the PLO and Egypt?

[Answer] First of all, I reject the phrase true relationship, because relations between the PLO and Egypt as well as between any Arab state and Egypt are historical pan-Arab relations which no one can ignore. Therefore, I object to the question. Our contacts with Egypt stem from Egypt's political and military impact. Specifically, these contacts stem from the importance of Egypt's role in the Arab-Israeli conflict. We in the PLO do not actually believe that Egypt has pulled out of the arena of the Arab-Israeli conflict. We cannot think so at all. Egypt has pan-Arab responsibilities which it should shoulder. Egypt refuses to relinquish its support for the Palestinian people's struggle to attain all their legitimate rights, including those of self-determination and establishment of their independent state on their national soil. Taking Egypt out of the arena of struggle is an Israeli aim. No Arab, either Palestinian or non-Palestinian, can agree to Egypt's moving away from its leading role in the Arab nation or from its position of confrontation of Israeli aggression and expansionist ambitions. Every strategic Arab movement must include Egypt, no matter whether this movement is political or military. All Arab countries without exception are required to preserve Egypt's role and support Egypt so that it will remain strong enough to repulse any aggression against the Arab nation. Egypt, in turn, is required to remain a vanguard of Arab struggle and an impregnable citadel against all invaders and all those who have ambitions not only on Egypt, but any Arab country, any Arab right and any Arab stand. I think we believe in Arab unity as much as we believe in Palestinian national unity at this sensitive and complicated stage. I do not think that exempting Egypt at this stage is a pan-Arab action.

PLO RADIO REPORTS 'ARAFAT'S REMARKS AT RALLY

JN271918 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] Brother Commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has asserted that the Middle East region will not enjoy peace, security or stability without the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. Abu 'Ammar was speaking in Damascus in a rally in memory of martyr Staff Maj Gen Sa'd Sayil, Abu al-Walid, Fatah Central Committee member and director of the Joint Forces Operations Room. 'Arafat denied that the evacuation of the Palestinian fighters from Beirut has weakened the Palestinian Revolution.

ARAB COMMITTEE CANCELS TALKS WITH UK OFFICIALS

LD272036 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Statement issued by the seven-member Arab committee created by the Fes summit -- date not given]

[Text] The chairmanship of the seven-member Arab committee entrusted by the Arab summit in Fes to contact the states of permanent membership of the UN Security Council, announces that it has decided to cancel the appointments of 1 and 2 December 1982 during which the committee was scheduled to meet in London with British officials. This has been conveyed to the British authorities following an exchange of letters.

UK Stipulations

LD281928 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Rabat, 28 Nov (MAP) -- The Moroccan AL-ALAM, citing Palestinian sources, writes today that the cancellation of the seven-member Arab committee's visit to London was decided after it rejected the conditions made by Thatcher's government. The same sources said His Majesty King Hassan II has rejected a British memorandum in which Mrs Thatcher's government stipulates that the committee must issue a collective statement confirming the following:

1. Its commitment to the Fes Arab summit resolutions
2. Recognition of Israel
3. Denouncement of terrorism
4. Its readiness to resolve the issue only by peaceful means

London made these conditions for accepting the participation of a PLO representative in the meetings of the seven-member committee.

Palestinian Source's Report

JN271117 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] Rabat, 27 Nov (INA) -- The INA correspondent here learned today that the seven-member Arab ministerial committee has decided to cancel its visit to the United Kingdom which was scheduled to take place on 2 December.

A responsible Palestinian source has told the INA correspondent that the cancellation came as a result of the United Kingdom's tactless behavior toward the committee by imposing conditions on its visit to London.

The Palestinian source explained that the United Kingdom had asked the committee to proclaim its commitment to the Fes summit resolutions and its readiness to (?recognize) Israel if it recognizes the Palestinian people's rights. The United Kingdom has also asked the committee to announce its rejection of terrorism.

It has also been learned that M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, received the UK charge d'affaires in Rabat yesterday evening and informed him of the committee's rejection of the British memorandum and the committee's decision to cancel its visit to the United Kingdom.

Responsible Palestinian sources have also told the INA correspondent that the dates of the committee's visit to Moscow, scheduled to take place on 3 December, and to Beijing on 6 December, remain unchanged.

AD-DAJANI ON STRENGTHENING PLO-JORDAN RELATIONS

GF271424 Doha QNA in Arabic 1205 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Doha, 27 Nov (QNA) -- PLO Executive Committee member Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani has said that the PLO's recognition of Israel is not a matter for discussion at the present time. In an interview with the Qatari paper AL-'ARAB published today he says the PLO's military structure is sound.

Referring to relations within the PLO structure Ad-Dajani said that in the past years the PLO has succeeded in laying down the bases of national unity within the organization. He emphasized that diversity of views within the organization is a healthy phenomenon in arriving at an effective decision where the minority abides by the views of the majority through continual dialogue.

Referring to Palestinian-Jordanian relations Ad-Dajani says: These relations are continuing, and the latest talks were to complement the bases of this "special relationship." The recent visit of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Jordan was in harmony with the requirements of the present stage and a continuation of past talks. The visit has achieved its objective. It was clear that there was agreement on uniting efforts to cooperate within the framework of joint efforts charted by the Fes summit in order to intensify Palestinian, Jordanian and Arab efforts to impose a just peace.

Ad-Dajani adds that the strengthening of PLO-Jordanian relations is accompanied by the strengthening of the PLO's relations with various Arab countries. He says the joint efforts of the PLO and Jordan primarily aim at tackling political and military issues. With regard to the opening of a new front that would form a springboard for PLO activity in the occupied territories, Ad-Dajani said this is not being discussed at present.

PLO Military Structure Sound

GF271155 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani has said that the PLO's recognition of Israel is not for discussion at the present time. In a statement to the Qatari newspaper AL-'ARAB published today, Ad-Dajani says the PLO's military structure is still sound and that it is wrong to imagine that Israel has hit the PLO structure in Beirut. He says the PLO institutions are still the same but they are passing through a short transition period, after which they will be able to complete their work in an ideal manner.

Ad-Dajani says the method and forms of resistance are determined by the leadership in the light of the present stage, which he says must rely primarily on action within the occupied territories.

Referring to the Palestinian political struggle, he asserts that the PLO is committed to the Arab peace plan. He says it is natural that political struggle should intensify at the present stage — a stage in which the Palestinian cause has become a reality that has imposed itself, particularly on the United States, which tried every means to avoid facing this issue.

PLO'S 'ARAFAT MEETS USSR AMBASSADOR IN DAMASCUS

JN261743 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] met with the USSR ambassador to Syria in Damascus last night. During the meeting, which was attended by Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, discussions dealt with the latest developments in the region and the continuing Zionist occupation of Lebanese territory.

PLO RADIO REJECTS CALLS TO RECOGNIZE ISRAEL

JN271830 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Station commentary]

[Text] Regardless of the different views concerning various Palestinian and Arab issues, and despite the current situation which is in fact the most serious situation to be faced by our people for over half a century of continuous struggle, certain basic issues will continue to be the core of the struggle of our Palestinian people and their sole legitimate representative, the PLO. These basic issues will remain the framework which defines all Palestinian moves on various levels.

Following the great battle of Beirut, the revolution emerged strong; it rebuilt its apparatus and its forces are continuing to face the Zionist enemy in Lebanon, waging significant military operations against the enemy. The revolution's forces in other Arab states are now being trained. Therefore, the military action of the Palestinian Revolution, both inside and outside the occupied territories, remains a primary alternative, supplementing political and diplomatic actions. This military alternative, which has been used by the revolution since its outbreak, has yielded great results. The world now is talking about the Palestinian people and their aspirations.

The Palestinian military struggle, coupled with the political struggle, has established the Palestinian presence in world forums. The PLO, as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, is now a big factor on the Middle East political map and cannot be bypassed in any efforts to realize a just and permanent peace in the region.

Despite all this the PLO, which leads the struggle of the Palestinian people, cannot ignore international variables. One of the basic conditions for the struggle against the Zionist occupation is to understand the circumstances which surround this struggle and to employ all these variables to promote the Palestinian struggle and realize the aims of our people in determining their fate and establishing their independent state on their own soil. Based on its understanding of the local, Arab and international variables pertaining to our region, the PLO has accepted the Fes summit peace plan and considered it the minimum it can accept to realize a just and permanent peace in the region.

Our Zionist enemy has rejected the Arab peace plan and has even rejected U.S. plans in the region, such as Reagan's recent plan. Israel is working to annex the West Bank and the Gaza Strip since it declared the annexation of Jerusalem and other Arab territories. Despite all this, some people are asking the PLO to recognize Israel even if Israel refuses to recognize the PLO.

The PLO cannot but reject all such ideas categorically and collectively. How can the victim recognize the killer? Those who were misled into believing that the PLO had weakened following its evacuation from Beirut must get rid of their illusions. The PLO has reorganized its forces to confront the enemy. It has also reorganized its forces in its new camps in other Arab states. The PLO is fighting the Zionist enemy daily, armed with the will of its fighters and Palestinian masses inside and outside the occupied homeland. The PLO will continue to move in search of the just and permanent peace which was agreed on by the United Nations and the Fes summit.

We wonder what the PLO would realize if it recognizes the enemy of the Palestinian people and the occupier of their land. The United States is one of the foremost, real enemies of the Palestinian people. Essentially, the United States is viewed in the same light as the Zionist enemy. Any attempt to beautify its ugly face would hold our fateful cause in contempt. It cannot be forgotten that Israel is in fact one of the grotesque forms of the U.S. image in the Arab region.

While confronting the Zionist aggression which was aimed at destroying it, its leadership and people in Lebanon, the PLO accepted all the UN resolutions pertaining to the Middle East. The Zionist enemy has flouted all the UN resolutions.

By signing a treaty with this or that Arab state, the Israeli leaders do not want to realize peace in the region. They only want to freeze the struggle with this or that state in order to single out the Palestinian people, entrench their occupation of the Palestinian territory and wipe out the Palestinian identity in order to keep these people refugees. The Zionist strategy is always based on liquidating the Palestinian cause after imposing capitulation on the peoples of the region. The confrontation of this fact will not result from imaginary calculations, such as recognition of Israel or calls for this recognition.

Again we affirm that our revolution is still strong and will continue on its path, relying on its generous people. The leadership of these people, which has understood the local, Arab and international variables, has attempted to realize just and permanent peace based on the Fes summit and the UN resolutions which stipulated the right of our people to self-determination and to the establishment of their state on their homeland. It is time all those who call for the recognition of Israel understand the Israel does not care for any recognition; that the Zionist leaders are interested only in realizing their ambitions, entrenching their occupation of our land, fighting our people, absorbing them in other communities and expunging their identity.

However, our people, under the PLO, have realized great victories and have imposed themselves on the formulas in the region. Our people will continue to raise the banner of struggle in all its military and political forms to realize their legitimate aspirations for establishing their state on the soil of their homeland.

KUWAITROMANIAN PRESIDENT ARRIVES FOR 2-DAY VISIT

LD271100 Kuwait KUNA in English 1011 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Excerpts] Kuwait, Nov 27 (KUNA) -- The President of Romania Nicolae Ceausescu arrived here Saturday on a two-day official visit to Kuwait.

He is accompanied by a delegation which comprises Romanian Deputy Prime Minister Ion Nicolae [name and title as received] and Foreign Minister Stefan Andrei.

He was received at the airport by His Highness the Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah.

The Romanian president will hold talks with H.H. the amir of Kuwait on the Middle East situation, the Palestinian problem in addition to strengthening ties between the two countries in different fields, especially the economic field.

Ceausescu's visit to Kuwait is in response to a visit made by H.H. the amir to Bucharest within the framework of a tour to East European countries last September. Kuwait is the only member country of the Gulf Cooperation Council establishing full relations with the Soviet Union and the Eastern Bloc.

Romania and other communist countries are interested in developing their relations with Kuwait especially in economic fields. Bucharest did not sever relations with Israel as other Eastern Bloc countries did in 1967 as a result of the June 1967 Israeli war with Egypt, Jordan and Syria which resulted in Israel's occupation of some Arab lands.

Meets With Amir

LD271724 Kuwait KUNA in English 1602 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 27 (KUNA) -- His highness the amir and the visiting Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu held official talks at Sayf Palace at 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

The amir [word indistinct] minister said the talks were primarily centered on bilateral relations and avenues of promoting them in all fields of cooperation between the two friendly states.

Issues of mutual concern and the international situation in general were also explored by the two leaders, he said. Negotiations were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Ceausescu arrived here Saturday on a two-day state visit at the invitation of his highness the amir.

Meets Heir Apparent

LD272024 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim As-Sabah, heir apparent and chairman of the Council of Ministers, paid a visit at 1600 today to Romanian President His Excellency Nicolae Ceausescu at his residence in As-Salam Palace.

Joint Communique Issued

LD281846 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1505 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Nov (KUNA) -- Kuwait and Romania today condemned Israel's aggressive practices against Lebanon. In a joint statement issued at the end of the 2-day visit of Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu they expressed their concern over the deteriorating situation in the Middle East region arising from the continuation of the Israeli aggressive and expansionist policy.

The statement said that the two sides have affirmed the continuation of their backing to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and stressed the need for its participation in all efforts to find a just and durable solution in the Middle East and to the Palestinian question. With regard to bilateral relations, the statement said the two sides have agreed that the joint committee for economic and technological cooperation should meet as soon as possible.

The following is the text of the joint statement:

At the invitation of Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, amir of Kuwait, Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, and his wife Elena Ceausescu, paid an official visit to the State of Kuwait from 27 to 28 November 1982.

The distinguished guest and his party were afforded a warm reception that expressed the sentiments of friendship and good relations that exist between the peoples of Kuwait and the Socialist Republic of Romania.

The talks were held in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding between Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait, and President Nicolae Ceausescu, president of the Socialist Republic of Romania. The leaders of the two countries comprehensively reviewed bilateral relations and the possibilities of developing them. They also reviewed current international issues.

The two sides have expressed their satisfaction with the continuing development of their bilateral relations. They asserted the importance of continuing their efforts to develop this growth in the various domains of cooperation. They also reviewed the promotion of economic relations between their two countries, and noted with satisfaction the continuous development of cooperation between them in the economic, trade, and technical fields.

The two sides' views were identical with regard to the presence of other possibilities for cooperation between them, and further promoting their relations in various fields, particularly the economic field, as well as in the scientific, cultural and educational fields. In this connection, and in order to give momentum to the promotion of bilateral relations, and in accordance with the decisions that have been made in this respect, they have agreed to hold a meeting of the joint committee for economic and technological cooperation as soon as possible.

The two sides expressed their grave concern over the deterioration of the international situation and the strong tension that prevails in international relations which creates new dangers to international security and peace, including the danger of a new world war. They agree that the preservation of world peace is one of the most important issues facing mankind.

They affirmed anew the need to continue to make every effort to consolidate peace and security in the world, reduce international tension, and halt the armament race, particularly in the fields of nuclear and other mass destructive weapons. They also stressed the need to do away with colonialism and all kinds of racial discrimination.

They also expressed their firm conviction that international relations must be established on the basis of mutual respect, noninterference in internal affairs, not resorting to force or threatening the use of force, and respect for national sovereignty, independence, and regional integrity.

The two sides called for a constructive, sincere, and serious dialogue between states in the field of disarmament, and for the adoption of tangible and effective measures to freeze and reduce armaments budgets, withdraw armed forces to inside their own national borders, dismantle foreign military bases, and oppose military alliances. The two sides called for solving international problems by political means, through negotiations, and with the participation of all parties concerned. In this connection, they also stressed the importance of consolidating the role of the United Nations in solving international issues.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah emphasized the important contribution the states of Europe could make toward cleansing the international atmosphere and the need to intensify European efforts for achieving peace and security on the European Continent. In this regard, President Ceausescu projected the interest that Romania is showing for the success of the Madrid conference and for it to attain positive results, including the convening of a conference for strengthening confidence and achieving disarmament, and for the continuation of efforts which began with the meeting that was held in Helsinki.

The two sides noted with grave concern the deteriorating situation in the Middle East region, arising from Israel continuing its aggressive and expansionist policy against the Arab peoples and states, and its attempts to annex the occupied Arab territories.

They reaffirmed that a comprehensive, just, and durable solution to the Middle East problem cannot be established except on the basis of the realization of the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination, and to the establishment of their own national independent state on their own land, and the securing of a comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967, including East Jerusalem.

The statement also affirms in this regard, the continuation of their backing for the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and on the need for its participation in every effort made to find a just and durable solution in the Middle East region and to the Palestinian question.

The Kuwaiti side expressed its appreciation for the stands of the Socialist Republic of Romania in support of Arab causes. In this regard, the two sides expressed their condemnation of aggressive Israeli practices against Lebanon, Israel's continuous attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of Lebanon, and the continuation of its military operations against its inhabitants.

They stressed the need to support all efforts aimed at achieving peace and stability in Lebanon and at preserving its security, sovereignty, independence, regional integrity, and unity under its own lawful authority.

The two sides stressed that the preservation of security and peace in the Gulf region is the responsibility of the Gulf states alone without any foreign interference.

The two sides also expressed their grave concern over the continuation of the armed dispute between Iraq and Iran, and expressed their hope that a peaceful solution can be reached for this problem. They welcomed all the initiatives aimed at ending this difference and at restoring peaceful neighborly relations between the two countries.

The two sides also affirmed the need for the speedy enforcement of the UN declaration for turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace. They expressed their conviction that the establishment of nuclear-free zones represents a great contribution in the actual process of disarmament, particularly nuclear weapons.

In the course of reviewing the international economic situation, the two sides stressed the need to increase the development in developing countries. They also expressed the need to make greater efforts for the adoption of immediate and effective steps for convening an international high-level conference of developing states with a view to coordinating the stands of these states in negotiations with the advanced states, and for the establishment of a new international economic order based on justice, democracy, and equality, and for guaranteeing the sovereignty of all states over their natural resources.

The Romanian president and the amir of Kuwait expressed their great satisfaction at the outcome of their talks and their conviction that the Romanian president's visit will contribute toward developing and consolidating relations of friendship and cooperation in the interest of the two countries.

President Nicolae Ceausescu and Mrs Elena Ceausescu expressed their great appreciation to the Kuwaiti people and leaders for the warm reception afforded them. President Ceausescu extended an invitation to the amir of Kuwait to pay a formal visit to the Socialist Republic of Romania. This invitation was graciously accepted with appreciation.

Departs 28 November

LD280936 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0813 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, 28 Nov (KUNA) -- Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu left for home today at the end of a 2-day official visit to Kuwait.

During the visit, he held talks with the amir of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. The talks concentrated in particular on bilateral relations and means of developing relations in various spheres, including issues of mutual interest and the international situation in general.

The Romanian president's visit to Kuwait is considered the fifth and last stage of a tour he started last Sunday, which also included Pakistan, Indonesia, Singapore, and Malaysia.

This is President Ceausescu's second visit to Kuwait since 1976. It returns the visit by the amir of Kuwait to Bucharest last September during his tour of a number of East European countries, which included Romania, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Hungary, and Turkey.

A joint statement on this visit is to be issued today.

OMAN

INFORMATION MINISTER ON AGREEMENT WITH PDRY

GF271136 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0855 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Nov (WAKH) -- Omani Information Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawas has stressed that the agreement of principles signed between the Sultanate of Oman and the PDRY does not mean the freezing of differences, but means turning over a new leaf for good relations that are governed with dialogue, cooperation between the two fraternal peoples, and mutual noninterference in internal affairs. The Omani minister stressed that the racial ties between the two peoples are strong and that the internal system of the two countries is a private matter.

In a statement to the paper AL-FAJR, which is published in the UAE, the Omani minister stressed the importance of Gulf cooperation, which he described as representing one of the cornerstones of Arab cooperation.

Talking about the Iraq-Iran war, he said that the GCC is not a security police force and that contacts among the GCC leaders serve the national sovereignty of every country; moreover, they follow legitimate channels through contacting the influential Iraqi and Iranian parties.

He also emphasized that there are absolutely no differences over the security agreement, indicating that there is an attempt being made to remove the Kuwaiti constitutional impediment that blocks signing the agreement. The Omani minister referred to the only reservation, noting that it has an economic nature designed to protect the Omani institutions. He pointed out that the reservation was aimed at preventing the conversion of Oman into a consumer and this was accepted by all the GCC countries.

The Omani minister said that during the latest Fes summit, it was agreed to establish bilateral relations with Egypt, stressing that the next months will witness active moves between Egypt and the Arab countries.

QATAR

HEIR APPARENT RECEIVES PLO'S MAHMUD 'ABBAS

GF271126 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, heir apparent and minister of defense, received Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, PLO Executive Committee member, at his office in Ad-Dawah Palace at 1100 today.

Yasin ash-Sharif, PLO representative in Doha, attended.

QNA has learned that during the meeting, views were exchanged on the latest developments in the Palestinian cause and the situation in Lebanon in general. The work of the Fes conference's seven-member Arab committee was also reviewed.

'Abbas Meets Oil Minister

GF271950 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1845 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] Doha, 27 Nov (WAKH) -- Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari finance and oil minister, met here this evening with Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, PLO Central Committee member, who is currently on a visit to Qatar.

The meeting focused on bilateral relations, the current Arab situation, particularly after the Palestinian-Israeli war, the political moves after the Fes summit, in view of the visits to the United States and France by the seven-member committee, and the committee's forthcoming visit to the United Kingdom, the Soviet Union and the PRC.

During the meeting, which was attended by the PLO representative in Doha, Yasin ash-Sharif, Abu Mazin also provided the Qatari minister with a comprehensive explanation about the Palestinian Revolution's situation and its relations with Arab countries in general.

Abu Mazin, who arrived in Doha today, met earlier with His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister.

Departs 27 November

GF280406 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1945 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Excerpt] Doha, 27 Nov (WAKH) -- Mahmud 'Abbas, Abu Mazin, PLO Executive Committee member, left for Kuwait this evening after a 2-day visit to Qatar.

During the visit, the Palestinian official held talks with senior Qatari officials on current Arab issues, particularly the situation after the Palestinian-Israeli war and the political moves after the Fes summit.

SAUDI ARABIAOFFICIALS EXPECTED TO HOLD TALKS WITH ANDROPOV

LD261546 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1515 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Moscow, 26 Nov (KUNA) -- Arab diplomatic sources here said today that Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal will be taking part in contacts to be held by an Arab delegation, headed by the Jordanian monarch, with Soviet leaders in a week's time.

This will be the first visit by a very senior Saudi official to the Soviet Union, although unofficial in nature, and taking place within the framework of the Arab delegation charged with discussing the Arab peace plan for the Middle East with the Kremlin leaders.

Riyadh does not have any relations with the Soviet Union.

The sources told KUNA that King Husayn is due here this Thursday, and the rest of the members of the delegation will follow on Friday.

They said the delegation will also include the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Yasir 'Arafat, in addition to representatives of Syria, Algeria, Tunisia, and Morocco.

The sources reported that the Arab delegation will hold talks with the new secretary general of the CPSU Central Committee, Yuriy Andropov.

PDRYYAR DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ADEN 28 NOVEMBER

GF282006 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Text] The delegation of the Secretariat of the Yemeni Council in the northern part of the homeland, led by Brother Ahmad ash-Shijni, YAR minister of state for People's Constituent Assembly Affairs, arrived in Aden today on a visit to the PDRY which will last several days.

In a statement to ANA, he said that his visit is being made in order to hold the third session of the Secretariat of the Yemeni Council in conjunction with the first ministerial committee meeting which will be held in Aden tomorrow under the leadership of Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of Supreme People's Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers, and Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, YAR prime minister and member of the Standing Committee of the General People's Congress.

He said that it is planned that this committee will discuss several issues in various fields and will issue instructions for implementation. He added that the delegation accompanying him will participate in the celebration of the 15th anniversary of independence day, which is regarded as a national day for the whole Yemeni people.

The minister was welcomed at the airport by Brother Mutlaq 'Abdallah Hasan [name as received], member of the Central Committee and secretary of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council; Brother 'Abd al-Wasi' as-Sallam, deputy interior minister; and several brothers from the Office of Unitary Affairs.

PRESIDENT MITTERRAND ARRIVES IN CAIRO 24 NOVEMBER

NC241236 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1220 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 24 Nov (MENA) -- French President Francois Mitterrand and Mrs Mitterrand arrived in Cairo at 1400 today on his first visit to Egypt since he took office 1 and 1/2 years ago.

President Husni Mubarak and Mrs Mubarak welcomed the French president and his wife at the airport.

Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, the deputy prime ministers, ministers and senior officials were also on hand to welcome the French president.

The French and Egyptian national anthems were played when the French president disembarked from the plane. A 21-gun salute was also fired. Presidents Mitterrand and Mubarak then shook hands.

After that, President Mitterrand inspected an honor guard which lined up on the tarmac. Two young girls then presented bouquets of flowers to the French president and his wife.

The French president then shook hands with his well-wishers. He and President Mubarak then went to the VIP lounge for a short rest.

After a short rest at the airport, Presidents Husni Mubarak and Francois Mitterrand entered a car and headed to the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah, where President Mitterrand will stay during his visit to Cairo.

Delivers Speech at Banquet

NC242207 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1840 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Speech by French President Francois Mitterrand at a dinner banquet held in his honor by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at 'Abidin Palace -- live -- translated from French into Arabic]

[Text] Mr President: We embarked on this visit only a few hours ago, but the welcome accorded us since the start of the visit -- which is taking place under the slogan of friendship and cooperation between our two peoples -- and these few hours make me sense the unique personality of the Egyptian people.

This friendship and amity, Mr President, is the friendship that first of all binds you and I. You were the first statesman to visit me after my assumption of the presidency of the French Republic. That was in June 1981 when [words indistinct] in Federal Germany. Your Excellency was the first leader to visit France under my presidency. Then came your second visit in February 1982, when you paid an official visit to France during which we exchanged views. The exchange was inspiring and useful. The last visit was the one you paid this year after your visit to Bucharest.

Allow me also to emphasize that these visits and meetings were based on a feeling of mutual confidence between the presidents of the two states.

Allow me also to recall that since you were elected to the post of president of Egypt, 10 Egyptian ministers visited France while only 9 French ministers visited Egypt. Therefore, we are lagging behind and, God willing, we will redress this soon.

I have a strong memory of all the visits I made to Egypt. I particularly remember the visit I made in 1974. I cannot forget the tragic circumstances under which I visited Egypt [word indistinct] in 1981. This is my first official visit to your great country.

In addition to the strong personal relations which, as I said, are based on mutual confidence, I would like to mention the friendship between the French and Egyptian peoples -- this profound friendship and amity which has a special and extraordinary character.

There are few states and peoples in the world which touch the hearts of the French people as Egypt does. Naturally, this is due to Egypt's extraordinary history. There is no doubt that Egypt's history and culture has an influence on everyone who is interested in the history of human civilization. How many great historical periods has Egypt experienced? When comparing this with our history in France, we see that Egypt has been defying history and time for over 6,000 years and it is still the heart of civilization in the world.

Many states in the world emerged by accident, as a result of wars or as a result of agreements between peoples and states. But Egypt [word indistinct] is a necessity, a geographic necessity first and then a historical necessity, as the desert met the Nile, which is the source of life and the origin of the Egyptian people.

There is no doubt that Egypt's geographic location between the African and the Asian Continents, in the area where the three divine religions emerged and which has been the source of all the great philosophies known to history, make Egypt a country with a message in human civilization.

This is the basis of the special feelings which the French people have in their heart for your country. This is also the basis of the relations that date back many centuries between the Egyptian and French peoples. These relations did not come about accidentally or on the basis of French strategic calculation of the importance of the state of Egypt, but as an expression of respect and appreciation for Egypt's civilization and history.

However, it is not true that this extraordinary and unique heritage in the world, some of whose basic riches we will see tomorrow evening, will not make us forget your present efforts or your great achievements, aspirations, hopes and (?difficulties).

I can say that the answer is no. We do not forget. It suffices to observe that the French residing in Egypt, who number over 4,000, and the number of the French establishments operating in Egypt are increasing daily and that the volume and value of the trade between the two countries is increasing daily and that the diversity of the exchanges combines research, medicine, law, atomic energy, modern technology and others. I recall that a film produced by an Egyptian was seen by 6 million French in France a few weeks ago. These are some of the examples of this cooperation, its type and importance.

I [words indistinct] the number of students learning the French language in Egypt is in the thousands. Some 50,000 students can learn the French language in Egyptian schools. But I would be happier if this number increased in the near future. In this, I see interest in French culture more than anything else. At a time when it is being said that the French language is the language of [word indistinct], law and editors, it has now become the language of development, engineering, technology and the heads of establishments. Therefore, I believe that choosing the French language as a second language can be useful and beneficial.

Perhaps it is not enough to pause at this inherited heritage but we must look forward to new spheres of cooperation. We must work to expand the sphere of this cooperation on the basis of our knowledge of your needs. I hope that the Frenchmen who are today working in Egypt will take into consideration, in all the work they do, the Egyptian priorities and the real Egyptian needs. Since this afternoon, our ministers have begun to exchange views and to discuss this bilateral cooperation and they will continue these discussions in the coming two days.

There is another reason which makes us look at you and look forward to your views: It is that you have lived through a period of pain because of the events that have taken place in the Near East. After all that has taken place in this area, today as well as what will take place tomorrow and the tomorrow (?which is closer) than today, you will play a basic role in finding a solution to the Middle East question. There is no doubt that cooperation and discussion in this field will benefit us a great deal.

France's stand toward the Middle East problem is known and I have expressed it very clearly many times. It relies basically on recognition of the rights of the people and the nations. Israel has the right to exist within secure, recognized and guaranteed borders. Moreover, the Palestinian people have the right to decide their fate and to establish a state within the framework they want and in the form it wants for this state. They alone can express their aspirations in this field. However, a reciprocal recognition between Israel and the Palestinians is the first step that would allow the achievement of any progress toward peace in the areas. Furthermore, it is not possible and I cannot imagine that we could give rein to and encourage those who are working to impede the peace process in the area.

Mr President, I was the only French official who had agreed with and encouraged the initiative of the departed leader Anwar as-Sadat. I used to believe and still believe that two states between which there was a war have the right to establish peace. I am still of the same belief and still believe that the march toward this peace must be continued.

You recall also that when Israel withdrew from Sinai, France, because it abides by the principles it defined for itself, did not hesitate, for the sake of establishing peace, in supporting this withdrawal from Sinai.

Thus, it was also not surprising that since the first days of the Lebanese war, we have tried and were able to agree on taking an initiative in the form of a draft resolution to be submitted to the Security Council. The good text of the resolution had analyzed in a sufficient and profound manner the problems which were created by the Middle East conflict. Furthermore, it proposed balanced and cohesive solutions that can be implemented.

The bilateral initiative we have adopted has been an honor to us and, in our consideration together with the recent initiatives that appeared in the Middle East arena, it constitutes one of the basic principles for which efforts must be exerted to achieve peace in the area.

Concerning Africa, if the priorities of Egypt and France were not completely identical and if the centers of the Egyptian interest were not compatible with those of France on all things, there still are absolutely no differences between us concerning the African Continent, on the contrary, the current agreement has expanded and is expanding. It is expanding because of the closeness of views, because of the closeness of our countries' analyses concerning what is taking place in Africa, because of our interest, because of our cohesive analysis of the conditions resulting from the financial and commercial developments in the changing world market and because of our search for the establishment of a new just and balanced international economic system.

Before concluding this address, Mr President, I must not forget that we should search for a solution of the problems not only of the African or the Asian Continents, but I consider that Egypt has a say which it must express in all that concerns the life of man and the life of all mankind. This is true as far as the major problems of relations and the search for balance in East-West relations are concerned. This is true as far as solidarity and cooperation between the North and the South are concerned. It is true that we are living in a world that is fraught with backwardness, hunger, poverty and persecution in some countries. But the aspirations and hopes of the peoples are simple. These peoples look forward to security, to education and to a calm and prosperous life. Thus, a great responsibility falls on the peace-loving nations and states. These states include France and Egypt.

Your Excellency Mr President, I wish you good health and success in all you do in the political and personal spheres. Mrs President, I wish good health to you and to all members of your family. To you ladies and gentlemen I give you my best wishes. I sum up these wishes by saying that I wish good health to the Egyptian people. I wish prosperity and further strength and development to French-Egyptian friendship. Thank you very much.

Mubarak's Banquet Speech

NC242100 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1818 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Speech by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak at a dinner banquet in Cairo on 24 November in honor of French President Francois Mitterrand -- live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Mr dear friend, President Francois Mitterrand, my lady, the wife of President Mitterrand; dear friends; I am delighted to welcome you in the good land of Egypt. I am also delighted to greet through you the noble French people, to whom we are linked by the strongest ties of creative cooperation and by the strongest bonds of amity and friendship. We are also linked to the French people by the same civic procession that epitomizes man's most sublime achievements and the greatest things in life.

We take special pride in President Francois Mitterrand, in his capacity as a great leader and a first-class statesman, who has dedicated his life to struggling for the sublime principles and values.

This is because he has faith in these principles and values, which he has turned into a torch that illuminates the path for all the steps that he takes. He has not for even one day abandoned firmness in righteousness, commitment to freedom and belief in justice. Nor has he taken lightly the fight against tyranny or hesitated to face dangers and wage battles. On the contrary, in the various phases of his struggle, he has been a Frenchman -- a great Frenchman in his patriotism and humanitarianism and in his ability to face up -- through political action -- to the sublime principles and values.

Friends: In its nature, the meeting between France and Egypt is a dialogue between civilizations and an interaction of cultures. Our two peoples have been ordained by destiny to discharge the great mission of propagating science and knowledge and of advocating rapport and the extension of bridges among the nations and the peoples.

Since the dawn of history, the Egyptian has been the maker of glory and civilization, has been capable of grasping the secrets of the universe and of the phenomena of nature, and has been ahead of his century in the sciences, the humanities and the arts. In exactly the same fashion, the Frenchman has ranked foremost among the pioneers of the European Renaissance and among the torchbearers of liberty and democracy.

Therefore, this meeting has not been born of coincidence. More so, it has been a historic inevitability that tolerates neither doubt nor surprise.

Here, on the southern shores of the Mediterranean, the first centralized state ever known to history emerged. Thanks to his instinct, man blazed his trail to the discovery of writing and to the idea of organizing work as well as to agriculture, to metalworking and to the sciences of medicine, geometry and astrology.

To the banks of the Nile came Plato and Herodotus to acquire science and knowledge, thus epitomizing the close link existing between Egyptian civilization and the Greco-Latin civilization that is the very origin of European civilization.

There, on the northern shores of the Mediterranean, appeared a great civilization that contributed to the enrichment of mankind's experience in the various sciences and arts. Furthermore, a piercing intellectual radiation surged forth, building bridges among the civilizations and deepening the concept of the same struggle waged by mankind for glory and advancement. Egypt spearheaded the states to which the French headed to discharge this mission. They included (Merval), Saint-Pierre Renault and Montaigne, Montpellier and [words indistinct]. Napoleon came to Egypt as a warrior; he left it a knowledgeable man and a revolutionary struggling for righteousness and justice.

Napoleon developed such faithfulness and sincerity of feelings that he put on record in his memoirs his eloquent sentence: I have never been as free as when I was in Egypt.

Egyptian intellectuals waded their way to the banks of the Seine in quest of the sources of the sciences and arts. The first meeting thus took place between the Egyptian intellect and the modern European intellect at the hands of Rifa'i at-Tahtawi, Imam Muhammad 'Abduh, Taha Usayn, Muhammad Sabri the Sorbonist, Mansur Fahmi, Mustafa 'Abd ar-Raziq and Tawfiq 'Abd al-Hakim.

And to the city of knowledge and enlightenment proceeded the jurists of law and the advocates of freedom. It was no coincidence that Mustafa Kamil -- the spiritual father of Egyptian patriotism -- at the turn of the century made his call for Egypt's liberation from the hall of the French Chamber of Deputies and he carefully began his call by addressing it to the heart of this great nation which authored the declaration of human rights.

Therefore, is it surprising that the relations existing between the two countries and the two peoples should be model relations, not based on common interests alone, but based on a cultural link, a mutual understanding and a close cordial feeling? Also, is it surprising that the two states should assume the special responsibility of extending bridges between Arab civilization and European civilization, of enriching the dialogue between Islam and Christianity, of advocating coexistence and brotherhood among the followers of the three divine religions and of defending the cause of human rights, social justice and democracy?

In the Mediterranean area, we understand the importance of preserving world peace and of combating foreign interference. We also realize the need for bolstering cooperation between North and South and of minimizing the contradictions existing between the advanced industrialized states and the developing states that look forward to a better future. In such a future, a legitimate balance would be struck between the interests of the large and small states, the monopolist and exploiting practices would end and efforts would rally to confront the economic crisis which has become everywhere the characteristic trait of this century.

Dear friend President Mitterrand, the Middle East region, which is extremely important strategically, is witnessing serious events that threaten international security and peace and require sincere efforts by all the peace-loving forces, particularly by the states of the European Continent, whose security and prosperity are linked to the security and stability in this part of the world. Therefore, they cannot adopt the stand of a spectator on the deteriorating events in Lebanon -- events which resulted from the Israeli invasion and its concomitant complications of destruction and killing of unarmed civilian children and women. It is not permissible that the international community be lenient vis-a-vis this violation of the rules of law and conduct and this flagrant aggression against human rights. All the forces which struggled courageously against the aggression on human dignity in the European Continent must adopt the same stand against the atrocities which are being committed on the soil of this ancient country, which since the earliest ages has been a bridge for cultural communication and an example of coexistence and fraternity and which is still capable of playing a basic role in spreading security and peace in all parts of the area.

These painful events have come as a new proof of the soundness of the stand which we advocated from the beginning: that light must be focused on the Palestinian issue on the grounds of its being the crux and essence of the conflict and that as soon as a peaceful settlement to this issue is reached, there will be no reason for the continuation of the conflict in the Middle East, because Arab culture has never manifested enmity toward the Jews. Indeed, the prosperity of the Jewish existence has been simultaneously concomitant with the Arab and Islamic culture.

We believe that the following principles must be applied without delay if what is wanted is to rescue the area from destruction and danger:

1. Complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

2. Halting all forms of foreign interference in Lebanese affairs.
3. Respect for Lebanon's sovereignty and bolstering legitimate authority in it as well as participation in its rebuilding and reconstruction.
4. Proceeding immediately to solving the Palestinian issue in a manner that will achieve harmony between the right of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and Israel's right to exist.
5. Refraining from propagandizing the ideas of an alternative entity because the Palestinian identity finds its true expression only on Palestinian soil.
6. Firmly calling on Israel to halt any settlements activities on the grounds that this constitutes a serious obstacle on the path of peace and a threat to the essence of coexistence between the Arabs and the Israelis.
7. Paving the way for the resumption of the peace negotiations by benefiting from the ideas put forward on the arena, foremost of which is the framework for peace in the Middle East, the joint Egyptian-French plan, U.S. President Reagan's initiative and the Fes summit conference resolutions, because all these formulas, though they differ in details, agree on the principal general lines and in proceeding toward peace, which is the demand of all the masses everywhere and their hope at present and in the future.

Perhaps it is appropriate for me here to express my extreme appreciation of the wise, active policy which France is pursuing to consolidate the peace process and which is represented by the firm support for the steps taken on the path of peace, the support for the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of their national entity on their soil, the acknowledgement of the principle of reciprocal and simultaneous recognition of the rights of this people and Israel's right to exist and the participation in the peacekeeping forces -- whether on both sides of the Egyptian-Israeli border or on the land of Lebanon -- a participation which reflects a genuine commitment to the cause of peace and a sincere readiness to bear some of its consequences and burdens.

Briefly speaking, the stand which France is adopting under your leadership, Mr President, is a great stand that befits an ancient state, a courageous wise leadership and a people that are distinguished by profound historical awareness and utter human feeling.

Likewise, the stand which your country is adopting on the Iranian-Iraqi war reveals full awareness of the nature of this war and the harmful effects it generates not only to the two warring parties but also to all the fraternal Gulf states, which are in great need of stability and of a feeling of security and optimism about the future.

Therefore, I take this opportunity to address an appeal from the heart to our brothers in Iran to stop the bloodshed and to resort to reason and logic and to respond to Iraq's decision to end the war and renew commitment to the border treaty ratified in 1975. We are prepared to play any role that will help the two fraternal countries to lay their arms aside and enter into a constructive dialogue. With similar force, we cannot abandon Iraq as it is facing an aggression on its territory and confronting a plan that openly and unwaveringly aims at interfering with the will of its people and overthrowing their legitimate government.

This is a grave precedent for dealings among the Third World countries -- a precedent which must be confronted by international society with firmness and severity.

The nonaligned group is in dire need of further cohesion and solidarity and for repudiation of differences and conflicts because the joint interests among the nonaligned states obviate the possibility of the existence of any fundamental contradictions. Moreover, the role that this group must play on the international sphere requires that its front be strong and cohesive and that all its resources be directed toward serving the goals for which the movement was established. The most important of these goals are lessening world tension, sparing the world the calamities of a destructive nuclear war, expanding the circle of cooperation among all the nations and peoples, combatting interference in the affairs of the medium-sized and small countries and establishing a new international economic system that would be more just and fair to the poor peoples who are facing the burdens of comprehensive economic and social development.

There is still before us a great deal of work for eliminating persecution and exploitation in the African Continent and we are aware how much you are concerned about its affairs and anxieties. The racist regime in South Africa is still practising various forms of repression and persecution against the owners of the land and right. Furthermore, foreign interference continues to threaten the security of many of the continent's states at a time when they are waging the battle of development in extremely difficult circumstances.

Your Excellency Mr President, the discussions we have had since your arrival have affirmed the closeness of our views on the important international and regional affairs and the sincerity of our mutual determination to strengthen the relations between the two countries in all fields. We look forward to the discussions which we will be holding with you in the coming days with a great deal of confidence and hope, because we believe that the future holds huge possibilities for strengthening and expanding the circle of cooperation. It is sufficient to point to the cooperation in the field of military industries -- we saw one of its good fruits days ago -- as a contribution toward strengthening stability and security in the area. Tomorrow, Mr President, you will be visiting the 'Ayn Shams University hospital, which has been built according to the most modern specifications, with Egyptian-French participation in addition to cooperation in the fields of culture, antiquities, education, industry, agriculture and building. [sentence as heard]

I would like to pause a little at two spheres of cooperation which have a deep meaning because they go beyond the present and demonstrate a great interest in the future. These are cooperation in the establishment of nuclear reactors for the generation of electricity and participation in digging the Jonglei canal, which serves both Egypt and Sudan and which will be the first result of accomplishments in the era of integration and a magnificent example of what can be achieved by joint international efforts based on the principle of the unity of the human struggle for the sake of peace and progress.

Friends, in embodiment of the feelings of amity and deep friendship between the two peoples, allow me to ask you to stand to greet President Mitterrand, his wife, all the dear guests, the friendly French people and the strong ties between the two peoples. God's peace and mercy be upon you.

Joint News Conference

NC251222 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1005 GMT 25 Nov 82

["Text of the proceedings" of the news conference held jointly by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and French President Francois Mitterrand at the Al-Qubba Palace in Cairo on 25 November]

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and French President Francois Mitterrand held a joint news conference at 1130 today. President Mubarak made the following welcoming speech at the beginning of the news conference:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. I would like to take this opportunity to again welcome His Excellency President Francois Mitterrand and the delegation accompanying him to Egypt, which is linked to France by strong friendship and relations in all fields. We hope that this friendship and these relations will continue to develop and increase. I repeat my welcome, and thank you.

In reply, President Mitterrand said: I would like to express to President Mubarak the kind feelings of the French delegation and mine, because, as I said yesterday, this is our fourth meeting this year. We are paying a 3-day visit to Cairo and will hold discussions in a more profound way than in the past. I am proud of French-Egyptian relations. On the levels of international and bilateral relations, we can rarely find -- I can say this with all certainty -- countries with which we have relations as strong as with Egypt. I thank President Husni Mubarak and all those who have participated in our talks. I, like President Mubarak, am ready to answer the newsmen's questions.

The following is the text of the proceedings of the news conference held by Presidents Mubarak and Mitterrand:

Question to both presidents: Several proposals have been made all over the world to solve the Palestinian problem. You have submitted your own proposal on settling this problem. It seems that what is required is a measure to give impetus to the process. Will you please state the steps that can be taken now to start solving the Palestinian problem?

President Mubarak: Your question asks for a detailed plan. I cannot give you a detailed plan, but I can express my opinion. We consider the Palestinian question the crux of the conflict. There is no doubt about this and we must achieve the right of the Palestinian people to determine their future. Autonomy talks were held and then stopped for one reason or another after the war in Lebanon. Several initiatives were submitted afterward, such as President Reagan's initiative, the Arab Fes summit conference resolutions and the Egyptian-French initiative. We have already expressed our views on Reagan's initiative: It has very strong positive aspects as well as observations [as received]. President Mubarak continued by saying: We are of the opinion that this initiative is acceptable and that its negative aspects or observations can be developed at the negotiations table. If we want to proceed toward solving the problem, I can say that we must support this initiative. There must be simultaneous recognition between the Palestinians and the Israelis. Even if the Israelis do not recognize the Palestinians, this is not a problem. We can reach practical solutions for this problem at the negotiating table. However, the Palestinians' recognition of the Israelis might help the United States start a dialogue with them, as we have been promised. This might facilitate the mission and step up the momentum for solving the issue.

I also believe that a Palestinian-Jordanian agreement is very important and will facilitate the beginning of negotiations for solving the problem. This is my view, thank you.

President Mitterrand: There must be certain principles for solving this problem. If we depart from them, we will immediately find that we are unable to reach any solution. These principles are:

1. The recognition of all the states of the region and the right of each state to live in security and peace.
2. The right of all peoples to self-determination on the land they consider to be their own. These two principles must be implemented here and there [the Arab and Israeli sides] because there is hostility.

There is another principle which will shorten the road to a solution. It seems to me that it will be difficult to make progress without mutual and prior recognition between the belligerents, which are ignoring each other.

I know well that we are far from a solution because the parties concerned -- Israel and the representatives of the Palestinians -- reject a mutual and prior recognition that will allow a dialogue on the basis of intentions which must be defined in advance.

Beginning this dialogue will lead to mutual recognition. This means that someone must start talking. I sincerely hope that not only will the PLO recognize Israel's right to exist but that the Arab states will as well. At the same time, I hope that Israel will recognize the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

President Mitterrand continued: The problem raised by Israel over the attainment of a new peace [salam jadid] is not considered an insurmountable obstacle. The Palestinians and those who fight in their name and have won the right to represent themselves must decide who will represent them in the future and in which way they will determine their future. These conditions are not presently fulfilled in order to obtain this decision. All initiatives put forward in this respect -- even if they are considered incomplete -- are welcome.

Some have believed that autonomy for the West Bank can be achieved and can lead to the affirmation of the Palestinian people's rights, as mentioned in the Camp David agreements. This is the weakest link, for how can we determine the future of the Palestinians without the participation of the Palestinians themselves? I previously declared to what extent I approve of the Camp David step -- namely, that it has enabled the achievement of peace between two belligerent states.

At the Fes summit the Arab states submitted other proposals, some of which are a repetition of the proposals made by Crown Prince Fahd, who is now the king of Saudi Arabia. At that time, I declared in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and in the presence of Crown Prince Fahd that we consider his proposals a good method for starting a dialogue.

President Mitterrand further said: Anyway, the process of starting a dialogue is considered to be progress if we take into consideration the presence of the other party. We must welcome any progress made.

The step taken by the Fes summit conference derived from the idea of starting a dialogue, although concentration was on certain conditions and reservations about certain aims. Then the French-Egyptian proposal, which has been submitted to the Security Council, was developed. It is not exactly in a state of freeze, because Egypt and France do not want to replace the other countries of the world and because all steps toward peace complement and do not contradict one another. We, however, tend to believe that our proposal is close to the reality in this part of the world. At present, we are ready to discuss as much as we can application of the principles to which I referred at the beginning of my answer. President Mitterrand said: It has been shown by France's stand on the war in Lebanon that it has remained faithful to these principles. I myself announced from the Knesset podium in Israel how I viewed the series of events. However, I want to define France's position on this issue -- France is concerned with establishing peace in the world. Because France has close links with the Middle East, Israel, Lebanon and the Arab peoples and because it is a permanent member in the Security Council, it feels that it is entitled to express its views on this subject. However, we do not intend to replace those who live in this area and whose fate is linked to both war and peace. We must define positions in every political or diplomatic step, because France believes that it must perform its duties toward the friendly peoples and countries, but it does not intend to speak for them. These are some of the basic elements on which the French stand is based.

Question to President Mitterrand and President Mubarak: Can you determine the steps that can encourage the Palestinians -- the PLO -- to recognize Israel at a time when Israel rejects U.S. President Reagan's initiative? Is it possible to think of international guarantees to ensure for the Palestinians the return of their land and rights at a time when Israel is continuing with its organized plan for settlements under which the land will be lost?

President Mitterrand: Had this problem not arisen, peace would have actually been realized. It is natural that to establish peace there must be two parties. If either of the two parties is absent, this is considered serious. If both partners are absent, the issue is more serious. This is what happens most often. [sentence as received] When Israel knows that the PLO's goal is to destroy the State of Israel, this is not encouraging. At the same time, if the PLO is asked to abandon its goals, while the Israeli Government strongly refuses to recognize the struggling PLO, this is not considered by the PLO as a sign of optimism. Mitterrand further said: Your question includes some historical facts. Many politicians and statesmen here in Egypt and in France, the United States and other places of the world have set forth proposals to put an end to this painful situation. Thus, your remark is to the point, but we cannot assume that the problem has been solved. Because there is a problem, we are talking about it. The question now is how can we make these countries and those representatives of peoples take a step toward progress? We are doing our best to ask them to make this progress, but we must not be overly negative. We must absolutely refrain from this and be patient. The question is linked with a number of international guarantees, as your question mentions. We will seek to achieve guarantees. France and Egypt, in particular, ought to play a role in the only suitable and possible place -- the Security Council.

Question: Will President Mubarak please answer the question?

President Mubarak: Naturally, Israel will reject any initiative because Israel's intentions are known. It will reject Reagan's initiative and it is rejecting the Fes initiative. It will reject any initiative. The United States must, with its capabilities, first start talks or a dialogue in one way or another with the Palestinians. The Palestinians must also recognize the State of Israel. I believe that this will open the door for a dialogue and will facilitate the process of the discussions. Israel's rejection of the Reagan initiative is a natural thing. Israel says there cannot be a Palestinian state and the Palestinians say they have the right to a state. Israel has many interpretations for the right of self-determination. We, as an Arab state, say no. We, as Egypt, say no. We said this at the autonomy talks. Thus, there is contradiction between the two sides and this is a natural thing. Had both accepted the Reagan initiative, it would have been an easy process. I believe that the only solution is for the PLO and Israel to recognize one another. Even if the PLO recognizes Israel, it will not lose anything as a dialogue with the United States will begin and an agreement will be reached between Jordan and the Palestinians on the need for representation and then we can begin the negotiations on the negotiating table. But, we must not adopt the same line as Israel and reject all initiatives. By doing so, we will be doing nothing -- refusing all the initiatives is the best favor we can do for Israel. This is my opinion.

Question: Is it possible to consider calling for international guarantees for the Palestinians?

President Mubarak: International guarantees for what?

Question: For the Palestinians, that their land will be returned in this case.

President Mubarak: Guarantees for... [sentence left incomplete]

Question: The return of the land, because there exists a settlement plan according to which the land will be lost.

President Mubarak: You mean, what are the guarantees if they [Palestinians] recognize Israel?

Question: Yes.

President Mubarak: If they recognize [Israel] today and nothing happens and then they withdraw their recognition, what will happen? There must be flexibility.

Question to President Mitterrand: You said yesterday that Israel must not be encouraged to continue with its current policy. Can you translate this into practice, that is, how can it be discouraged? No one is encouraging Israel now and no country recognizes or approves what Israel is doing now. So, how can it be discouraged in a more effective manner?

President Mitterrand: I cannot see how France can encourage Israel to continue with its current policy. You know well how the Israeli prime minister spoke about France's position on the events in Lebanon. Do you consider the hope that the Arab countries will recognize Israel as an encouragement to Israel? In this case we must defend Israel's right to be recognized.

This is considered an encouragement because hopes are pinned on mutual recognition by both parties. At the same time, I encourage as much as I can the enlightened forces in Israel to realize their historic duty. It is impossible to remove the Palestinian people from their land. Saying this is not considered an encouragement to Israel's policy; on the contrary, it is an attempt to reach an agreement. An agreement presumes mutual concessions, since neither of the two conflicting parties can hope to impose its views. This can be painful to this or that party, because each of them believes that it upholds a historic mission. Merely requesting the Arab countries to recognize Israel certainly presumes that the PLO expects a similar initiative by Israel regarding the Palestinians.

Question to President Mitterrand: You have always encouraged the Palestinians. Are you ready now to recognize the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people? How can you encourage the Palestinian people to recognize Israel? Are you ready to receive Yasir 'Arafat?

President Mitterrand: I have said before and I said it in the Israeli Knesset, which in fact was a quite suitable place, that the PLO fighters express their people's rights. As for recognizing the PLO as the representative of the Palestinian people, it is up to the Palestinian people themselves and not up to me personally. Therefore, conditions must be prepared for Palestinian autonomy. It is suitable to say under all circumstances that the PLO must embark on specific political actions, particularly regarding recognition of the existence of Israel if Israel takes a similar step, because we cannot recognize an organization which has as one of its goals the elimination of a state whose inception we ourselves agreed to and with which we are linked with friendly ties on a state level. This principal issue must be settled. Regarding Yasir 'Arafat, he has not asked to meet me in Paris. This does not mean that we set conditions for him. French diplomats and government officials established relations [with the PLO] a year ago and we did not try to conceal this. However, any measure by the president of the French Republic means an official recognition before the necessary measures are completed. This is premature and is all that I want to make clear.

Question to President Mitterrand: You are paying an official visit to Egypt and you have held talks with President Mubarak for several hours. Will you please give us an idea about the early results of this visit, and will President Mitterrand and President Mubarak specify the most important points that their talks yesterday and today dealt with? Thank you.

President Mitterrand: I have already given an extremely summarized idea about this topic. I will give a detailed explanation of the most important topics we discussed during our talks. Yesterday, we basically discussed the area, the Near East, the Middle East, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Iraqi-Iranian conflict and, naturally, the effects of these. We also discussed the African summit conference in Tripoli and the difficulties facing it. We expressed our desire that the OAU maintain its unity and to leave to the member states to decide for themselves how to achieve this unity. The talks this morning dealt with the East and the West. President Mubarak himself will specify the several contacts he has held with many European countries, including Italy and the FRG.

In addition, our talks dealt with the change of leadership in the Soviet Union, President Reagan's latest decisions, the problems of armament, increasing armament, disarmament, and the issue of the deployment of new U.S. weapons in Europe after the Soviet Union has reinforced its military presence in Europe and its effects on international balance.

President Mitterrand added: Concerning Egypt and France, they meet not only to discuss some issues which concern them but also to study everything which takes place on the surface of this planet in their capacity as two great states.

Each time that peace is exposed to difficulties or if peace confronts any difficulties, then this enters in the core of our interest -- the interest of Egypt and of France -- because we are not regional states and because we have our say which we must give. Regarding bilateral relations, both France and Egypt have expressed their desire to develop these relations, particularly in such fields as culture and education. Concerning economic and military cooperation, it is good. I can say that this cooperation has taken a significant share of the Egyptian economy and the French economy and it has occupied a part of our discussions this morning, particularly the expanded discussions between the two presidents in the presence of the representatives of the two governments.

Question: From your statements, it appears that the Lebanese issue must be resolved so as to facilitate the solution of the whole Middle East issue. What can France do, from a practical point of view, to expedite the process of the Israeli, Syrian and Palestinian withdrawal? Do you support the idea of keeping a multinational force in Lebanon? Is France prepared to augment its contribution to this force?

President Mitterrand: As you may be aware, France has always played a part during the solution of the Sinai problem. From the start of the Lebanese events, I called in the name of France for the Lebanese people to have the right to exercise their sovereignty and regain their dignity and independence. That meant that the foreign forces should leave. It was on 9 June during a press conference in Paris that I made this statement, immediately after the outbreak of the war. We then presented proposals in this respect to the Security Council, in our capacity as permanent member in the council.

By this, we wanted to confirm, within the framework of the strong relations that bind us to Lebanon, that every time the Lebanese Government expressed a desire, France was prepared to participate in the security efforts to avert the consequences of the war as well as in the efforts to form a force to disengage the warring sides and to fulfill Lebanon's desire to regain its independence and unity.

President Mitterrand added: France contributes largely to this force and it supplied it with units, which are presently in Lebanon. France expressed this desire from the beginning. This was followed by the French plan submitted to the Security Council.

If some had listened well to what France said, we would have saved much time and consequently saved many lives and much of the material losses. An agreement on the withdrawal has been finally reached and we are ready. Is an increase in the French contingent of the multinational force what is required? The Lebanese Government must decide this.

We have discussed this matter recently with President al-Jumayyil. It would also be possible to deploy the UN forces in Lebanon and France is ready for this.

Continuing his answer to this question, the French president further said: If it is decided that other states will participate in the multinational force, then France would approve this and we would agree to increase our units, if this is asked of us.

What is certain though and what seems indispensable to us is that it is necessary to interfere with the combatant forces and to separate them from each other as much as possible. The Lebanese Government and its national army should be able to exercise their powers in their country.

The relations between France and Lebanon are very good. We are always keen not to precede the events, to give full freedom to this government to make its decisions. I repeat that any time an appeal is made to France under the conditions I referred to, France will respond.

Question: I kindly request that you first explain whether the Soviet Union must, in your opinion, play a role in the achievement of a permanent settlement in the Middle East and, second, whether the presence of the Soviet Union will give an opportunity for French-Soviet diplomacy to become more active and for the possible resumption of the summit discussions between the president of the Republic of France and the official in charge of Soviet policy?

President Mitterrand: If you permit, I will begin by answering the second question. The fact is that the coming of a new official to the Soviet supreme leadership is bound to introduce changes. The Soviet Union is involved in several difficult and intricate issues. The problem of Afghanistan comes to my mind in particular. If I could draw a comparison between the Andropov regime and Brezhnev's, then I would be able to say that the new personal factor permits the reconsideration of the current policy -- which encounters insurmountable obstacles -- and provides an opportunity for the start of new negotiations.

President Mitterrand added: I consider the policy which will emerge from the personnel change as a new factor in giving an impetus to this. It is definite that if Brezhnev were to have lived longer, then Soviet-French relations wouldn't have been frozen.

The French minister of state for external relations has held several energetic contacts with the Soviet foreign minister. The coming months will show how relations with Andropov will be. These relations must remain energetic and lively because of the historical positions of Russia and France.

Several events have taken place. The most important is the problem of Afghanistan. In the coming months of Andropov's era, we will see how the relations between France and Russia will be. We will be discussing several questions because the Soviet Union is, like us, interested in East-West problems. We will also discuss the question of the balance of forces in Europe.

Concerning your first question on a possible role by the Soviet Union in the Middle East discussions, it is inevitable that the two superpowers should become involved in any regional conflict.

The unwise, however, must speed up a solution to the problems confronting them because time complicates things and does not solve them. This is the position vis-a-vis the Middle East situation. The United States and Soviet Union have undertaken to offer guarantees. Consequently, it is illogical to imagine the establishment of a just and durable peace without the approval of the two superpowers. This calls for the adoption of an ambitious and cautious measure.

This answers your first question in a positive way.

Question: The inquiry commission under Kahan in Jerusalem yesterday published a sort of preliminary finding regarding the Sabra and Shatila massacres. I would like to ask Presidents Mubarak and Mitterrand if they believe this to be an occasion for the search for peace in the Middle East to develop by bringing about a change in the Israeli leaders' stand on the Palestinian problem?

President Mubarak: I do not believe that the Kahan inquiry commission operation and what was announced yesterday about the possibility of the blame falling on some Israeli Government officials will affect the peace process in any way, because if Begin were to go and another person was to replace him, the Israeli line would not change with the change of individuals, since it is a policy charted by the state. If Israel has the intention to arrive at a just solution in relation to the Palestinians and to have the Palestinians determine their own fate, I do not believe that Begin going and another person coming would have any effect. The question is: Does Israel have a genuine intention to let the Palestinians attain the right to self-determination and to live in their own national homeland or not? This is an Israeli policy and not the policy of Begin or any other individual, should a change take place. Thank you.

President Mitterrand answered by saying: Agreement by Israeli officials to testify before the inquiry commission is regarded as an expression of democracy. This is a factor that calls for optimism and indicates that the Israeli people have rejected the abominable acts that have taken place.

The news conference given by Presidents Mubarak and Mitterrand lasted 55 minutes. It was attended by the officials and deputies to the prime minister concerned with the issues discussed by the Egyptian side. It was also attended by the members of the French delegation accompanying President Mitterrand.

Mitterrand's Aswan Statement

NC261521 Cairo MENA in English 1505 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Aswan, 26 Nov (MENA) -- French President Francois Mitterrand said today that there was an Egyptian-French strategy on the political level regarding certain points and not a strategy on the tactical level.

Following his one-hour tour of the High Dam site and the dam power station, President Mitterrand told reporters that the French-Egyptian good relations existed long before he assumed power, adding that the friendship between the two countries was a well-known fact.

He added that Egypt and France raised jointly before the world issues concerning relations between North and South, East and West and also issues concerning Asia and Africa.

In reply to a question of a Franco-Soviet rapprochement, Mitterrand said that he did not like the term rapprochement, as political realities indicated that the Soviet Union had committed reproachable actions, particularly in Afghanistan. He added that there had been other faults with its actions, but nonetheless Franco-Soviet relations still remained.

Mitterrand added in this respect that talks at summit level could take place one day for the achievement of a rapprochement, if the term could be borrowed.

President Mubarak, asked whether President Mitterrand's assessment of the post-Brezhnev era tallied with his own, answered: "I think we can say so. I think both of us assess the situation well, to certain extent. I cannot claim that I have any unusual vision of Soviet leader Andropov. I don't know him. I have to go back to the lessons of history to understand what goes on in Moscow, with allowance for error."

President Mitterrand, asked whether there was agreement or disagreement between Paris and Cairo on Africa, answered: "About the sum total of African problems, the areas of agreement are many and widescale. I see no disagreement worth mentioning at present. Perhaps there were in the past, but not now. The present historical conditions lead us to the same analyses and the same conclusions."

President Mitterrand said the Iraq-Iran war is the most important war in the present stage. The two superpowers are being cautious about this conflict, and this is understandable, he added.

He expressed hope for the preservation of the "secular balance between the Arab and Persian worlds. "Otherwise, the consequences would assume tragic dimensions.

"We are endeavouring first of all that each country would stay where it is," he said.

"At one time," he added, "there was an Iraqi offensive to upset the revolutionary balance in Iran, but we don't want that. Nor do we hope that Iran should score a big victory over Iraq. If the balance is upset, there would be consequences over the neighbouring Arab states, and in the Gulf axis."

He believed that all Western forces want preservation of the balance, and do not want Iraq to be defeated. "Likewise," he added, "we hope the war would not bring about the destruction of Iran."

President Mitterrand, asked whether his assessment of the role of the two superpowers on the Middle East coincided with President Mubarak's, answered, "yes, in some ways. We recognize the role of the two superpowers and appreciate their decisive role, but it is not hoped that this role should be solitary".

Asked about his recent message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan, President Mitterrand said: "The United States should not forget that France will not accept, does not accept and has not accepted in the past, any infringement on the free exercise of its sovereignty. This is what I made clear in the letter."

Departs 26 November

NC262101 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2055 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Luxor, 26 Nov (MENA) -- President Francois Mitterrand and his accompanying delegation tonight left Luxor for India at the end of a 3-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The French president was seen off at Luxor Airport by Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs and head of the accompanying honor escort, and Qina Governor 'Abd al-Halim as-Sa'idi.

'ALI MEETS 'IMPORTANT PALESTINIAN PERSONALITY'

NC251953 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1943 GMT 25 Nov 82

[Text] Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali this afternoon met with an important Palestinian personality who had earlier today arrived in Cairo from Tunis as an envoy of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat.

Subjects pertaining to Egyptian-Palestinian relations and the situation in the Middle East were discussed during the meeting.

AL-ANBA' REPORT ON IMMINENT CABINET RESHUFFLE

JN291032 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 29 Nov 82

[Text] Kuwait, 29 Nov (INA) -- Press reports said here today that a Cabinet reshuffle would soon take place in Egypt affecting a number of government posts.

In a dispatch from Cairo, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-ANBA' reports that the reshuffle will affect Prime Minister Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, Deputy Prime Minister for Production Eng Ahmad 'Izz ad-Din Hilal, the minister of electricity and energy, the minister of state for agriculture and food security, the minister of state for manpower and training, and the minister of state for reconstruction [last title as received].

The paper adds that Cabinet changes were supposed to have taken place some time ago, but were postponed due to the French president's visit to Egypt. The paper says that Dr Mustafa Khalil and Mamduh Salim are the strongest candidates for the prime minister's post.

AL-WAZZAN NOTES ISRAELI OBSTACLES, U.S. ROLE

NC271608 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1515 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] Lebanon today conveyed to Ambassador Morris Draper its position on the proposals he brought from Israel regarding the Lebanese-Israeli Liaison Committee and its link, in one way or another, with the withdrawals [of the foreign forces].

Ambassador Draper has left for Israel carrying the Lebanese reply. Earlier today, he met with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil at his home in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, [Foreign] Minister Salim, and Ambassador Tuwayni for the Lebanese side and Christopher Ross and Robert Pugit for the U.S. side.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan, who stayed with President al-Jumayyil for lunch, told reporters:

[Begin recording] It seems that the Israeli position has not changed in a way that will allow us to start the contacts we are seeking. Our meeting today under the chairmanship of His Excellency President al-Jumayyil was clear regarding our demands, position, and insistence on starting these contacts according to the guidelines we have devised since we started contacts with Philip Habib. We do not consider ourselves beginning contacts. On the contrary, we are continuing the contacts that Philip Habib held. We conveyed our position, and some important ideas and stances to Draper. In addition, we pointed out the U.S. responsibility at this stage. The United States has committed itself to implementing what we have accepted, that is, agreement with the United States in all the negotiations that have taken place so far. I do not want to say anymore. We are waiting for an answer from Draper or Habib, particularly since he will return to Israel very shortly. [end recording]

In response to a question, Al-Wazzan said:

[Begin recording] The Lebanese Government's stand is that in the working paper it has conveyed to the Arabs and the world, the government has decided that there will be no armed presence other than the Lebanese armed presence on Lebanese soil. In other words, we demand that all withdraw. As for the timing of this withdrawal, it is we and no one else who will specify this. We will specify the withdrawal in light of our total interests. [end recording]

ISRAELI DEMANDS FOR MILITARY PRESENCE REJECTED

NC271734 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil met in his home in Sinn al-Fil today with Ambassador Morris Draper in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, Foreign Minister Elie Salim, and Ambassador Ghassan Tuwayni, the officials in charge of coordinating negotiations among the various parties. Also attending the meeting were Christopher Ross, Ambassador Draper's assistant, and Robert Pugh, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy.

During the meeting they discussed the adamant [mutasallib] Israeli position on the issue of starting negotiations and the new proposals submitted recently. It has been learned that Lebanon conveyed to Ambassador Draper its absolute rejection [rafd mutlaq] of the Israeli stand and the demands he brought from Israel. Lebanon considers these demands as being aimed at keeping a certain form of Israeli military presence in Lebanon. Lebanon rejects this presence because, even if it is symbolic, it will harm the Lebanese state's sovereignty and authority throughout Lebanon.

Senior Lebanese officials have told Ambassador Draper that Lebanon does not care about the formalities of setting up the committee or its level, as much as it insists on reaching an understanding on the three basic principles which Lebanon cannot condescend or desist from. These principles are: The safety and unity of Lebanese territory, and Lebanonization of all political and security responsibilities over this territory. These officials consider that apart from this, the other matters can be defined in future negotiations. However, priority must be given now to surmounting the obstacles and conflicting views on the conditions of starting the negotiations. This means that the U.S. side is supposed to undertake the task of softening Israel's obdurate position and make it start the negotiations through the Lebanese-Israeli Liaison Committee.

Within this context, it has been learned that the U.S. side has reiterated its support and backing for the Lebanese position, and pledged to continue its efforts to overcome the obstacles Israel has placed, particularly because on previous occasions the United States pledged through its president, and its Ambassador, Philip Habib, to secure the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanese territory.

LEBANESE-PALESTINIAN RELATIONS REVIEWED

GF280634 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 22 Nov 82 p 1

[Dispatch from Beirut]

[Text] Beirut -- Sources close to the [Lebanese] Presidential Palace have reported that the Lebanese state has basic views on a reevaluation of Lebanese-Palestinian relations in order to approve the Palestinian presence on its territories. These views are:

1. Unconditional withdrawal of the Palestinian armed presence from Al-Biqa', the north, and all of Lebanon.
2. Organization of Palestinian civil presence in Lebanon in accordance with the following bases:
 - A. Recognition of the legitimate presence of all the Palestinians registered in the files of UNRWA for the year 1948. The remaining Palestinians will be distributed to other countries which have the financial, economic, and geographic capabilities to absorb them.
 - B. Transfer of camps from the capital, the cities, and crowded regions to regions that are suitable for erection of new camps capable of absorbing them.
 - C. The Lebanese state guarantees protection of the Palestinian civilians in accordance with the laws and regulations.

The Palestinian Resistance had set the following conditions for holding a meeting between Al-Jumayyil and 'Arafat:

1. Signing a new agreement that defines Lebanon-PLO relations. (Lebanon rejected this request and regarded the Lebanese laws as the bases that define relations of the state with the Palestinians; moreover, Israel backed the Lebanese refusal.)
2. Rebuilding the camps and keeping them in the same locations, replacing the tents with block houses and insistence on retaining [these camps] in crowded regions.
3. Demanding a symbolic Palestinian military presence associated with the Lebanese Army command.

(Lebanon rejected any further Palestinian military presence on its territories, and Israel supports Lebanon in this respect.)

4. Opening of political and media offices for the PLO in Beirut.

AS-SAFIR INTERVIEWS AL-WAZZAN ON ISSUES

NC280930 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Text] In an interview published today in AS-SAFIR, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said the United States is almost the only force that can exert effective pressure on Israel. Lebanon became certain of this force during the months of its tragedy, especially during the siege, bombardment, and invasion of Beirut.

Al-Wazzan added that Lebanon has often resorted to the Security Council and obtained many resolutions, which remained unimplemented or were partly implemented. The establishment of the UN emergency forces in the south is proof of this. Israel has invaded Lebanon and continues to occupy it despite repeated Security Council resolutions calling on Israel to withdraw unconditionally. The fact is that the line that has remained open to us for upholding our demands, our appeal for help, and for putting an end to the unruliness of the invasion to which Lebanon has been subjected, is the U.S. line. We also have support from another line -- Saudi Arabia's, which in turn has exerted pressures of which all of us are aware. Despite this, and the importance of the effective U.S. role to end the Israeli occupation, Lebanon does not hand over the reins of its salvation to any side whatsoever. In the final analysis, its salvation depends on its citizens, their harmony, concord, and unity in confronting all challenges and dangers.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan said the present reliance on U.S. efforts is a reliance on the effectiveness and ability to achieve rapid and decisive results. We are at present, in this respect, as much optimistic over the U.S. efforts and moves as we are wary of the Israeli practice of countering all these efforts and moves in order to achieve its aims and objectives.

Replying to a question, Prime Minister al-Wazzan denied that Lebanon has disregarded the Soviet Union or any other country. He said this country has addresses numerous appeals to the whole world. Everybody was aware that Israel listened only to the United States.

Replying to another question, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said Lebanon is apprehensive and has reservations about the nonfulfillment of U.S. promises. However, he asserted that Lebanon continues to depend on the U.S. efforts, especially as in this respect the United States is the only effective and interacting line. Even though apprehension dictates vigilance and caution, this should not lead to doubt, especially since some skeptics hope to put Lebanon at a deadend.

Discussing the incidents in the mountain, the prime minister said that what is taking place in the mountain regrettably represents inter-Lebanese involvements which have undoubtedly been prompted behind the scenes by instigatory attitudes. The U.S. stand on these incidents and the U.S. efforts to remedy the situation are also taking place behind the scene. It is really regrettable that we, the Lebanese, provide the excuses and leave gaps that enable the beneficiaries to implement [their plans] and do harm, while those who wish to provide help and support find themselves in a very embarrassing situation.

The responsibility falls on us for an important part of what is taking place in the mountain. We can defuse most of the explosive situations in the mountain. I say this because I hear everybody accusing the same side.

Replying to a question, Prime Minister al-Wazzan said that if the United States decides to, it can compel Israel to adopt stands, including its withdrawal from the mountain, which will reduce its interference there. Therefore, we wish to have a resolute and comprehensive U.S. stand (?regarding) the Israeli interference in any part of Lebanese territory -- a stand that will ensure Israeli withdrawal and contribute to the restoration of complete Lebanese sovereignty over this dear country.

BOMB KILLING BASHIR AL-JUMAYYIL SAID 'IMPORTED'

NC291244 Paris AFP in English 1008 GMT 29 Nov 82

[Text] Beirut, Nov 29 (AFP) -- The explosion which killed Lebanese President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil last September was set off by a sophisticated electronic device brought to Lebanon by Eastern European diplomats, according to the local Central News Agency.

The agency said Lebanon's official inquiry into the September 14 assassination had established that diplomats from "an important Eastern European country" had smuggled in the detonator with the aid of "a leader of a Palestinian organization" and an official from an Arab-nation intelligence agency.

According to the Central News Agency, the device was imported from Hong Kong.

The agency said officials would appoint an investigating magistrate sometime this week after the preliminary inquiry had been completed.

AL-JUMAYYIL RECEIVES AMBASSADOR'S CREDENTIALS

NC261314 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Nov 82

[Text] This morning, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil received the credentials of Tunisian Ambassador (Sa'ib Bin Mustafa) and Jordanian Ambassador Mu'tasim al-Balbishi in the presence of the Foreign and Expatriates Minister Dr Elie Salim.

President al-Jumayyil delivered two speeches after receiving the credentials of the two ambassadors. After receiving the credentials of the Tunisian ambassador, he stressed the importance of relations between Lebanon and Tunisia and the importance of cooperation, especially since Tunisia hosts the Arab League headquarters.

After receiving the credentials of the Jordanian ambassador, he stressed bilateral relations and the need for cooperation and coordination of efforts to achieve a solution to the Middle East problem.

President al-Jumayyil emphasized the importance of the Lebanese role in achieving peace in the area divorced from the policy of axes.

CABINET DROPS DEMAND FOR MINISTERIAL-LEVEL TALKS

Meridor Statement

TA281209 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1148 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Report by Razi Barqay from the prime minister's office in Jerusalem -- live]

[Text] The Cabinet meeting ended a short while ago. The discussion revolved mainly around the Lebanese issue. Let us hear a short statement by Cabinet Secretary Dan Meridor:

[Begin recording] The Cabinet today held a discussion on negotiations with Lebanon. The prime minister, the defense minister and the foreign minister as well as intelligence personnel gave reports followed by a discussion. The Cabinet endorsed the following decision unanimously:

The Cabinet reaffirms its decision that the negotiations between Israel and Lebanon are of a political-security nature and will include arrangements that will prevent any possibility of activity from Lebanon that would harm Israel and its citizens.

The heads of the two delegations will be authorized civilian representatives. The negotiations will be conducted in Beirut and in Jerusalem. Today the Cabinet also endorsed the foreign minister's trip to Zaire for an official visit. [end recording]

Well then, these laconic remarks by the Cabinet secretary conceal an argument raging within the government itself. A compromise proposal by Begin at noon bridged a dispute between a large group of about 10 ministers, and a minority that included the defense and foreign ministers. Ministers Sharon and Shamir opposed a government concession on two issues: the location of the talks with Lebanon and the level on which the talks will be conducted. They said there is no need to rush, as there is a favorable change for Israel among the Lebanese public. The level should be ministerial and the venue of the talks must be Jerusalem and Beirut. They were joined by Ministers Moda'i and Aridor. However, a large group of ministers rejected what seemed to it unnecessary stubbornness and intransigence.

Generally speaking, it may be said that these ministers agree with the U.S. proposals to conduct the talks on a relatively low level and not to insist on holding them in the capitals of the countries concerned. According to these ministers, these are procedural questions only and, according to one of those ministers: Our concession is not one of weakness, but a concession made from a position of strength.

At this point in the argument, Begin asked for the floor and for permission to conclude the debate. He then proposed a compromise: the level is not so important; we may appoint a minister on our side while the Lebanese settle for a representative who is not a Cabinet member. But, the prime minister said, we shall not give up on Jerusalem. We will not agree that the Lebanese dictate to us where the talks will be conducted.

Incidentally, during the discussion among the ministers, the chief of staff asked for the floor and defended the defense minister's position. The chief of staff said: All of Israel's wars, even since the War of Independence, ended with military achievements, and if we insisted on political achievements following these victories our conditions would have been different then.

No Immediate Negotiations Seen

TA281559 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Text] In the wake of the Cabinet session today, the assessment prevailing in Jerusalem is that political and security negotiations between Israel and Lebanon will not open in the next few weeks. The Cabinet decided to give up the demand to hold the negotiations at ministerial level but to insist that their venue should be the capitals of both countries. Lebanon insists on not conducting the negotiations in Beirut and Jerusalem and envoy Draper's upcoming efforts in Beirut will focus on settling this dispute. More details from our correspondent Moshe Hakohen:

[Hakohen -- live] The draft resolution passed by the Cabinet today in effect constitutes a compromise between the Lebanese and Israeli positions. Israel expressed its readiness to soften its position on the level of the talks: The Cabinet today gave up the demand that the talks should be conducted at the ministerial level, but in contrast, it vehemently insists that they should be held in both capitals, Jerusalem and Beirut, rather than at Khaldah and Ma'ale Hahamisha, as Lebanon -- supported by the United States -- had proposed.

Meeting with the prime minister, the defense and foreign ministers this morning prior to the Cabinet session, Ambassador Draper expressed his assessment that it would be tough to convince the Lebanese Government to accept the Israeli demand to hold the talks also in Jerusalem, at least not in the near future. According to him, this may call for prolonged talks with the Lebanese. Reacting to this, the prime minister said that Israel had time and it was ready to wait until Lebanon becomes convinced.

Referring to the level of the talks, the Cabinet decision emphasizes that Israel demands that both delegations be headed by civilians, in order to underscore the political-security character of the negotiations. On this issue, Draper today provided a soothing clarification that President Amin al-Jumayyil apparently intends to appoint a civilian, Antoine Fattal -- former Lebanese deputy foreign minister and currently one of the Lebanese president's senior advisers -- as head of the Lebanese delegation. This appointment still depends on the approval of the Lebanese Government. Draper's clarification came in response to reports from Beirut that the Lebanese representative-designate would be a military man, Deputy Chief of Staff General Hamdan, who previously headed the joint Israeli-Lebanese armistice commission. As recalled, this report aroused bitterness in Jerusalem.

The Cabinet did not discuss today the appointment of the head of the Israeli delegation to the talks with Lebanon. However, the most talked about candidate is Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche who has been maintaining the lion's share of regular contacts with the Lebanese Government.

Most of the ministers who participated in the debate today -- the debate preceding the Cabinet decision -- expressed the view that there was room for showing flexibility on procedural matters in order to make it easier for President al-Jumayyil and for appreciating Lebanon's agreement in principle to hold negotiations, that are also of a political character, with Israel. In this context, it was noted that Israel would agree to conduct preliminary talks with Lebanon if Beirut so desires and that it would agree that the negotiations begin in Beirut. As said, it will insist that part of the negotiations are also held in Jerusalem.

The assessment was also voiced in the Cabinet that President al-Jumayyil is currently subject to conflicting pressures inside Lebanon: on the one hand, pressure from Christian quarters, led by the Phalange military flank that is pressuring for negotiations on a political agreement with Israel, and on the other, pressure by Muslim quarters represented by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan that are pressuring in the opposite direction.

In the meeting, Minister Mordekhay Ben-Porat said that in the event that Lebanon insists on substantive matters, Israel should withdraw to the Al-'Awwali River and consolidate its rule there similar to the situation in Judaea and Samaria.

In reaction, the defense minister rejected all the notions about a unilateral withdrawal and said that it would be to no avail and would not ease the burden on the IDF. Sharon said Israel must firmly insist on its positions and not let anybody make it throw away its bargaining cards.

'Sources' on Signal to U.S.

TA290621 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 Nov 82

[Report by Razi Barqay -- live]

[Text] Suspicion toward the United States is the main reason for the tough line adopted in the Cabinet yesterday by the foreign and defense ministers. Ari'el Sharon revealed to the Cabinet that he had recently met -- without the help of the Americans -- with a large Lebanese delegation that briefed him on President al-Jumayyil's talks in Washington. According to the testimony of the delegation, the Lebanese president told his hosts that he sought to reach a comprehensive agreement with Israel. The Americans replied to him: Just deal with the limited issues pending between you, leave the issue of the comprehensive agreement to us. To this, Al-Jumayyil replied: I will give you a green light for 3 to 4 months.

The defense minister summed up this disclosure by saying: The Americans are using the Lebanese issue as a bargaining card; therefore, we must persist in our obstinacy.

Sharon's remarks were corroborated by his aide, Major General Tamir, whose remarks aroused bitterness. Tamir told the ministers: The Americans are raising proposals, but nobody knows whether they are speaking on behalf of the Lebanese or on their own behalf. One of the ministers hastened to inquire: Are you saying that the Americans lie to us?

The prime minister's stubbornness on the issue of Jerusalem and Beirut [as the venue for the talks], may be interpreted against the background of the dispute with the United States. Government sources last night told us that on the issue of Jerusalem, the prime minister is not signalling to Lebanon but rather to Washington. He is seeking to reemphasize that Jerusalem is not a bargaining matter.

In the prime minister's second trip to the United States, the main issue will be Lebanon. However, most ministers expressed their apprehension to us that an arrangement there is not a matter to be concluded within a few weeks.

Funds Approved for War

TA281757 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Text] The Cabinet today approved an additional budget of 9.3 billion Israeli shekels for the Defense Ministry. This budget is supposed to cover most of the additional expenses of the ministry in the wake of the war in Lebanon. Our correspondent Gid'on Zelinger reports on the economic portion of today's Cabinet session:

[Zelinger -- live] The cost of Operation Peace for Galilee, an operation that expanded to become the war in Lebanon, is yet unknown.

The Cabinet today approved an additional budget of over 9 billion shekels to finance the war. In the summer, another 3.7 billion shekels were approved for the same purpose. These funds originated in the budgets of the various ministries, and particularly the subsidies' budget. Another 1.3 billion shekels were saved from the budget of the Defense Ministry itself and were allocated to financing the war. The bottom line as it stands today: almost 14.5 billion shekels.

Funds will also be allocated to finance the war next year and the following years. The Finance Ministry is making efforts to isolate this extraordinary expense and stretch it through several years. It should be pointed out that the additional expense will mainly be covered by the Peace for Galilee tax. This tax will also cover increased allocations to the National Insurance Institute this year.

In sum, the Cabinet today approved an additional budget of 16.5 billion shekels for the army and the National Insurance Institute. This is the second budget for this year. Within a few months, Finance Minister Yoram Aridor will submit to the Cabinet a proposal for a third budget while, at the same time, deliberations about the current fiscal year continue. A debate is scheduled to be held in 2 weeks about the draft budget for 1982-83, a budget that supposedly provides for cuts both in expenses and the number of civil servants.

Sharon, Shamir Visits Approved

TA281626 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1510 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Excerpt] At today's Cabinet session, Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's trip to Zaire this evening was approved. Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon's visit to Honduras, as a guest of that country's defense minister, was also approved. Our correspondent reports that Sharon will go to Honduras from the United States, which he is to visit this week.

PRIME MINISTER BEGIN TO VISIT U.S. IN JANUARY

TA290530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 29 Nov 82

[Text] The prime minister has once again been invited to visit the United States in January. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that President Reagan extended the invitation in the message of condolences he sent Begin. It is believed in Jerusalem that a meeting between the two men would help thaw the freeze in negotiations between Israel and Lebanon.

Our correspondent has also learned that Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has leveled sharp criticism at the U.S. role in the conflict with Lebanon. At the Cabinet session yesterday, Sharon said he had recently met a Lebanese delegation and learned from it about a U.S. policy contradicting public statements by administration officials in Washington.

SHAMIR HOLDS NEWS CONFERENCE, DEPARTS FOR ZAIRE

TA290715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 Nov 82

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir last night departed at the head of a large official delegation for a state visit to Zaire. This is the first state visit by an Israeli statesman to that country since bilateral relations were severed in 1973. In a news conference prior to his departure, the foreign minister said he hoped his visit to Zaire would bring about a tightening of relations between Israel and African countries. The foreign minister did not elaborate on the subject of the talks he would hold with Zairian leaders or the aid plans he would propose during his visit.

Our correspondent *Cad Shimron* was at Ben-Gurion Airport:

[Begin recording with Shamir remarks apparently recorded earlier] [Shimron] We have a long-standing tradition of cooperation with and aid to the African states, the foreign minister said, and we are acting within the framework of our experience to strengthen and tighten our relations with Zaire. Zaire is one of the largest countries in Africa, the minister emphasized, and its leader, President Mobutu, exercises a great deal of influence on the continent.

[Shamir] Mobutu is a veteran and an influential leader on the African Continent. He is the man who broke the barrier of fear from Arab pressures and decided to resume relations with the State of Israel following a long interval.

[Shimron] To the question on how relations with Zaire would be influenced by the fact that they were severed and then abruptly resumed in the past by President Mobutu, the foreign minister replied that in the course of the visit, they would discuss the future and would not dwell on the past. Shamir added:

[Shamir] The future is [one of] deepening relations of friendship and cooperation between us and Zaire, and setting the model for cooperation with Israel on the African Continent. We hope this model will influence and encourage other countries on the continent. [end recording]

COMMISSION ISSUES COMMUNIQUE; REACTIONS REPORTED

TA250833 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Nov 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by David Richardson]

[Excerpts] Sources very close to Begin told THE JERUSALEM POST yesterday that if even the slightest blame or shadow of criticism is directed at Begin by the commission of inquiry, when its final findings are published, he will ask for new elections.

The sources said they believe that under those circumstances, the National Religious Party [NRP] will not stand in Begin's way. Begin, they report, is confident of being returned to power with a much larger majority than at present.

A Knesset majority is needed to reschedule elections; so far, it has been denied Begin because of NRP opposition.

Meanwhile, it was unclear last night whether Begin would resign to avail himself of the opportunity offered him by law to defend himself from "potential damage" by appearing at the commission or appointing a lawyer to appear on his behalf.

Informed sources pointed out that Begin, in his original appearance before the commission, deliberately made it clear that he had not prepared a 'defence brief' or spent time and effort, as did other witnesses, in going over the relevant protocols and documents. This attitude accorded with the premier's general position -- that he did not know in advance of the plan to send the Phalangists into the camps, and did not know of their doings there until it was too late, and was therefore free of all culpability.

A spokesman for Foreign Minister Shamir said last night that Shamir was "preparing his response" to the commission's letter to him.

Labour Party Chairman Shim'on Peres, speaking on Israel television's Moqed interview programme last night, refused "to jump to any conclusions until the committee's final word has been said."

Peres said that he believes that a change of government is possible within the present Knesset, but does not preclude early elections.

He added that he is sure the committee will find that Israel had no direct involvement with the Beirut massacre, although the question of government competence in handling the situation is another matter.

Legal experts consulted last night were not sure whether the "harm" referred to by the commission indicated only quasi-political damage or could also include criminal proceedings for culpable negligence. As things stand at the moment, suggestions of criminal proceedings appear "far-fetched," said one senior counsel.

What is clear that the commission members -- Justices Yitzhaq Kahan and Aharon Barak and Aluf [Maj Gen] (Res.) Yona Efrat -- have clearly defined their brief as originally announced by the government to include the senior political and military echelons involved in the events surrounding the massacre. Moreover, out of the 42 witnesses it has heard, the commission has only announced that these nine may be harmed by its continued investigation and the findings.

Copies of the resolution were sent to the nine, all of whom have testified before the commission, and were accompanied by letters informing the recipients that they had 15 days to request to reappear before the commission, to study material held by the commission, to cross-examine witnesses and to submit further evidence. They were also told that they may take legal counsel.

The resolution [of the commission of inquiry] was published by the GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE early yesterday evening after the commission had heard testimony earlier in the day from Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir. No further witnesses have been scheduled to appear, although commission spokesman Judge David Bar-Tov did not rule out that they may be summoned.

The following is the communique issued by the commission:

This decision is issued by the commission in accordance with the provisions of Section 15 of the Commissions of Inquiry Law, 5728-1969, which stipulates:

(A) Where it appears to a commission of inquiry that a particular person is likely to be harmed by the inquiry or its results, the chairman of the commission shall notify that person in what respect he is likely to be harmed and shall place at his disposal, in such manner as he may think fit, such evidence relevant to that potential harm as is in the possession of the commission or of a person entrusted with the collection of material under Section 13.

(B) A person notified under Subsection (A) may appear before the commission either in person or through an advocate, make statements and examine witnesses even if they have already testified before the commission, and the commission may permit him to present evidence, all in relation to the said potential harm.

(C) A person at whose disposal evidence has been placed under subsection (A) shall not publish any part thereof without the prior approval of the commission.

(D) Despite what is said in Subsection (A), the commission of inquiry is permitted not to notify that person as said there, on the condition that it is convinced that nothing in the conduct of the inquiry is harmful to him, and that in its report it will not determine findings or conclusions regarding him, and will not make recommendations regarding him.

After examination of the evidence which we have heard and of the other material in our possession, we determine that harm could be caused by this inquiry or its results, as follows:

1. The prime minister, Mr Menahem Begin, may be harmed if the commission determines the following findings or conclusions:

(A) That the prime minister did not appropriately consider the role to be played by the Lebanese Forces during, and due to, the IDF's entry into West Beirut, and ignored the danger of acts of revenge and bloodshed by these forces against the population in the refugee camps.

(B) That this omission is tantamount to non-fulfillment of a duty which was incumbent on the prime minister.

2. The minister of defence, Mr Ari'el Sharon, may be harmed if the commission determines the following findings or conclusions:

(A) That the minister of defence ignored or dismissed from his mind the danger of acts of revenge and bloodshed by the Lebanese Forces against the population in the refugee camps in Beirut, and did not order that the appropriate measures be taken to prevent this danger.

(B) That the minister of defence did not order that the Lebanese Forces be removed from the camps as quickly as possible, and that steps be taken to protect the population in the camps, when he received reports of acts of killing or acts which deviate from regular combat operations which were carried out in the refugee camps under the control of the Lebanese Forces.

(C) That the aforementioned omission is tantamount to non-fulfillment of a duty incumbent on the minister of defence.

3. The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Yitzhaq Shamir, may be harmed, if the commission determines the following findings or conclusions:

(A) That the foreign minister, after hearing from Minister Tzipori on September 17, 1982, the report on the actions of the Lebanese Forces in the refugee camps, took no appropriate step to clarify if this report had grounds, and did not bring the report to the knowledge of the prime minister or defense minister.

(B) That the aforementioned omission is tantamount to non-fulfillment of a duty incumbent on the foreign minister.

4. The chief of staff, Rav-Aluf [Lt Gen] Refa'el Eytan be be harmed, if the commission determines the following findings or conclusions:

(A) That the chief of staff ignored or dismissed from his mind the danger of acts of revenge and bloodshed by the Lebanese Forces against the population in the refugee camps in Beirut, and did not order that appropriate measures be taken to prevent this danger.

(B) That the chief of staff, when reports reached him of acts of killing, or acts which deviate from regular combat operations, which were carried out in the refugee camps under the control of the Lebanese Forces, did not check the veracity of the reports and the scope of the acts, and did not order the cessation of the actions of the Lebanese Forces in the camps, their removal from the camps as quickly as possible and the taking of measures to protect the population in the camps.

C) That the chief of staff in a meeting with the commanders of the Lebanese Forces which was held on September 17 and after this meeting, approved the continuation of the Lebanese Forces' operation in the refugee camps until September 18 and ordered that they be given assistance for the continuation of their actions.

D) That by commission or by the above-mentioned omission there is breach of duty or non-fulfillment of the duty incumbent on the chief of staff.

5. The director of military intelligence, Aluf [Maj Gen] Yehoshu'a Sagi may be harmed if the commission determines the following findings or conclusions:

A) That the director of military intelligence did not give proper attention to the decision taken regarding the role which the Lebanese Forces would play during the IDF's entry into West Beirut, and did not warn after the murder of Bashir al-Jumayyil of the danger of acts of revenge and bloodshed by these forces against the Palestinian population in West Beirut, and especially against the population in the refugee camps.

B) That the director of military intelligence did not as quickly as possible bring to the knowledge of the prime minister, the defence minister and the chief of staff, the report which he had received on Friday September 17, in the morning hours, about what had occurred in the refugee camps under the control of the Lebanese Forces.

C) That this omission is tantamount to non-fulfillment of a duty incumbent on the director of military intelligence.

6. The director of the Institution for Intelligence and Special Projects (Mosad) may be harmed if the commission determines the following findings or conclusions:

A) That the director of the Mosad did not give proper attention to the decision taken regarding the roles to be played by the Lebanese Forces during the IDF's entry into West Beirut, and did not warn after the murder of Bashir al-Jumayyil of the danger of acts of revenge and bloodshed by these forces against the Palestinian population in West Beirut, and especially against the population in the refugee camps.

B) That this omission is tantamount to non-fulfillment of the duty which was incumbent on the head of the Mosad.

7. The O.C. Northern Command, Aluf [Maj Gen] Amir Drori, may be harmed if the commission determines the following findings or conclusions:

A) That the OC did not take appropriate and sufficient steps to prevent the continuation of actions by the Lebanese Forces in the refugee camps, when he received reports of acts of murder or acts which deviate from regular combat operations which were carried out in the refugee camps under the control of the Lebanese Forces.

B) That the OC did not warn the chief of staff, when the latter arrived in Beirut on September 17, of the danger posed to the population in the camps by the continued activity or presence of the Lebanese Forces in the camps, and did not try to prevent the continuation of this activity in a meeting with the commanders of the Lebanese Forces which was held on September 17 or shortly thereafter.

C) That this omission is tantamount to non-fulfillment of the duty incumbent on the OC.

8. Tat-Aluf [Brig Gen] 'Amos Yaron (IDF divisional commander in Beirut) may be harmed if the commission determines the following findings or conclusions:

A) That Tat-Aluf [Brig Gen] Yaron did not appropriately evaluate and did not check the reports received regarding acts of killing or acts deviating from regular combat operations by the Lebanese Forces in the refugee camps, and did not report to the OC and the chief of staff on these reports and their meaning immediately after they were transmitted to him on September 16 in the evening hours or in the early hours of the night.

B) That Tat-Aluf [Brig Gen] Yaron did not take appropriate steps to stop the actions of the Lebanese Forces in West Beirut and to protect the population in the camps immediately when he heard the reports referred to in the above paragraph (A).

C) That Tat-Aluf [Brig Gen] Yaron did not warn the chief of staff, when the latter arrived in Beirut on September 17, of the danger posed to the population in the camps by the continued activity or presence of the Lebanese Forces in the camps, and gave the Lebanese Forces approval to send a new force into the camps without taking steps which would ensure the cessation of the irregular actions of these forces in the refugee camps.

D) That by commission or by the above-mentioned omission there is a breach of duty or non-fulfillment of a duty which was incumbent on Tat-Aluf [Brigadier General] Yaron.

9. That Mr Avi Duda'i, personal aide to the defence minister, may be harmed if the commission determines the following findings or conclusions:

A) That Mr Duda'i received on September 17, in the morning hours, or before noon, a report of acts of killing which had been carried out by the Lebanese Forces in the refugee camps, and did not transmit the report to the minister of defence.

B) That the above omission is tantamount to non-fulfillment of a duty which was incumbent on the personal aide to the defence minister.

BEGIN NOT TO APPEAR BEFORE COMMISSION AGAIN

TA260821 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Nov 82 p 1

[Report by political correspondent Sarah Honig]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv — Prime Minister Menahem Begin will not make a repeat appearance before the Kahan inquiry commission into the Beirut massacre, THE JERUSALEM POST learns from sources very close to Begin. The premier was one of nine civilian and military leaders formally notified by the commission that they "may be harmed" by its findings.

The sources said the prime minister does not intend availing himself of the opportunity to reappear before the commission to clarify various points or defend himself. He may, however, elaborate on various questions in writing.

The sources categorically refuted reports that he was "surprised and taken aback" by the commission's letter to him Wednesday. Begin is taking the matter in his stride, the sources said, and does not even intend consulting legal advisers on the matter.

The sources added only that the press's interpretation of the commission's letters and the manner in which the story was featured "leaves a good deal to be desired."

They argued that it "is utterly and basically misleading to regard the commission's letters either as an indication of its final findings, or as being tantamount to interim findings."

They went on to say that Begin may go over some records of the hearings. The sources pointed to one example where he would clarify a question raised during his testimony. This clarification involves what Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan told the Cabinet about the tradition and methods of revenge in Lebanon. When Begin testified, a quote from Eytan was read out to him and he glanced at the written text.

Begin replied that he did not remember the chief of staff's warning of possible revenge and the answer was widely judged to be unsatisfactory.

However, in reviewing the matter it emerged that the chief of staff's words "were not a warning against sending the Phalange into the West Beirut refugee camps, but that they were uttered after the Christian Lebanese Forces had already entered those camps. The context of the statement was not a warning, which Begin indeed could not recall. Rather than warn, Eytan explained why it was necessary for Israel to enter West Beirut. "He neither mentioned nor addressed himself to the refugee camps," Begin's aides told THE POST.

They added that in his written statement to the commission, Begin will again stress that the decision to send the Phalange into the camps "came against the background of powerful public pressure in the country to have the Phalange shoulder some of the burden for freeing their own capital and thereby to reduce Israel's own battle casualties."

The sources reiterated (as reported in THE POST yesterday) that should any shadow of blame fall on Begin, he will call early elections. Since it is not clear when the commission will publish its findings, it is still too early to speculate about the date of such elections. Begin is confident that he will be returned to power with a greater majority than he now has.

EYTAN, YARON MAY RISK CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

TA260825 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 26 Nov 82 p 1

[Report by David Richardson]

[Text] Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan and the Israel Defence Forces divisional commander in Beirut, Tat-Aluf [Brig Gen] 'Amos Yaron, are liable to face criminal proceedings if the Kahan commission finds that they were in breach of duty, a commission source said yesterday.

Yaron is now in the U.S., on a UJA [United Jewish Appeal] mission.

Legal observers and the source pointed out that, only in the case of Eytan and Yaron, had the warnings sent by the commission on Wednesday stated that there might have been a breach of duty by commission or omission. Such a breach is a criminal offence and could lead to proceedings being brought against them.

In all of the other cases, the commission warned that it might find that those involved had failed to do what was incumbent on them by virtue of their position. As the evidence before the commission now stands, such non-fulfillment of a duty does not constitute an actionable offence.

Representative, including lawyers, have already approached the commission on behalf of some of the nine served with the formal warnings and have examined material collected by the commission.

The material may only be examined in the Popick building on the Hebrew University's Giv'at Ram campus where the commission is sitting.

At a briefing for journalists yesterday, a commission spokesman stressed that the 15 days stipulated in the warnings was the period during which the commission was to be informed of a person's desire to reappear, submit further evidence or cross-examine witnesses.

It was also made clear the neither the Cabinet nor the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee has the right to prevent the commission from publishing its findings.

The commission itself will not deal with questions of perjury or criminal liability and, should such an issue arise, it will be taken up by the attorney-general. The same would apply to infringements of the sub judice rules by journalists and newspapers.

A commission source said yesterday that members of the commission and the investigators were monitoring the press, but not very closely. In particular, yesterday's report in 'AL HAMISHMAR which was headlined "An Accusing Finger at Begin-Sharon-Shamir-Rafal," Begin -- Did Not Consider, Sharon -- Ignored, Shamir -- Did Not Clarify, Etc," was a distortion of the commission's resolution and might infringe the sub judice rules.

Now that the commission has served these warnings (which are also not necessarily its last) and legal representatives are to be involved, the proceedings will take on a more defined judicial character and it is clear that the commission's work will be drawn out.

The commission investigators are meanwhile continuing to interview IDF officers and other witnesses.

LEGAL ASPECTS OF COMMISSION WARNINGS ANALYZED

TA251422 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 25 Nov 82 pp 1, 7

[Report by legal specialist Yehi'el Gutman]

[Text] The warning of the commission of inquiry into the Beirut massacre to the prime minister, to Ministers Sharon and Shamir, the chief of staff and the other five witnesses, that they might be damaged by the commission's inquiry does not necessarily mean that those people will be hurt by the final conclusions of the commission.

The legal basis for the commission's action is in Clause 15 of the Law for Commission of Inquiry. This clause states that, if the commission has seen that someone might be hurt from the investigation or its results, it should inform him how he might be hurt and put the relevant evidence at his disposal.

Such a person is allowed to come before the commission on his own, or be represented by his lawyer, to say what he has to say, to examine witnesses and to bring evidence in order to clear himself of any suspicion.

The purpose of this clause in the law is to prevent a situation in which a person will be hurt by evidence given to the commission -- sometimes without this person's knowledge -- without being able to react to this material and to defend himself.

From the warning letters sent by the commission yesterday to nine people it cannot be concluded that these people will be hurt by the commission's final conclusions.

However, what can be concluded from the letters is that if some people are found responsible for the events in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps they will be from among those receiving the letters yesterday.

It can also be assumed that those not receiving letters from the commission yesterday can calm down in the meantime, and if no letter is sent to them within the next few days they are not expected to be included in the commission's findings.

It should also be remembered that the report of the commission of inquiry and its conclusions are not a court verdict. They are only recommendations, which the government can accept or reject.

If, as a result of the commission of inquiry's conclusions, it is decided to bring someone to trial, action will be needed which is outside the jurisdiction of the commission.

As for the expected decisions of the commission in regard to political figures, they can always have elections and ask for the verdict of the people.

LIKUD SAID LAUNCHING CAMPAIGN ON COMMISSION

TA281014 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 28 Nov 82 p 1

[Report by Arye Kinarti]

[Text] Likud leaders, as well as Herut and Liberal activists, are going to begin an information campaign explaining to the public that the conclusions of the commission of inquiry into the Beirut massacre will have no effect on or implications for the continued operation of the government even if direct or indirect, partial or full blame is placed on the political leadership.

It is said within the Likud that the remarks by Ministers Sharon and Moda'i in their parties' branches at the end of the week, and Minister Corfu's interview with IDF radio, in which it was stated that the government will not fall in the wake of the commission of inquiry's conclusions, mark the start of this information campaign.

As implied, the Likud's explanation will be that, "No great or special significance should be attached to the letters the commission of inquiry sent to the political echelon witnesses, particularly Begin, Sharon, Shamir and Tzipori [as published], and that the letters should not be interpreted in the way the opposition circles and the communications media interpreted them."

Nevertheless, several Likud members have recently opined that, "The government and the Likud are facing the problem of what the commission of inquiry's conclusions will really be," and that the letters sent by the commission may have public reverberations.

At the end of the week, MK Yitzhaq Rabin said in answer to a question: "If I view the state of affairs from a politician's viewpoint, it seems to me that if any forecasts can be made at this stage, the report of the commission of inquiry will shake the coalition. However, this has nothing to do with the letters sent to the nine persons."

Labor Party Reacts

TA281315 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Text] The Labor Party accuses the Likud of making an intentional and organized attempt to harm the work of the commission of inquiry looking into the Beirut massacre and to prepare the political ground for its final conclusions. The Labor Party's reactions team released an announcement in which it states that the remarks by Ministers Sharon and Corfu and by MK's Druckman and Zeiger are not accidental and violate the sub judice rules.

PERES SAID WILLING TO STEP DOWN IN NAVON'S FAVOR

TA261851 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1815 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres will give up his position as the Alignment's candidate to the Prime Ministry if President Yitzhaq Navon decides to return to political life. This was stated by Peres this week in a closed meeting of Netanya Labor Party activists, which was attended by ten people. Our correspondent Menashe Raz reports remarks made in this meeting for the first time:

[Begin videotape] If Yitzhaq Navon says he wants to head the party and be its candidate for the Prime Ministry, I will tell him that the position is his; but as a friend I recommend that he not do so. These are the remarks by Labor Party Chairman Peres to a limited number of party activists in Netanya on Sunday.

These remarks were made before the sharp exchanges between Peres and Rabin on Tuesday of this week. One of the participants in the meeting asked Peres: Is it possible that in due course a leading triumvirate, made up of Yitzhaq Navon, Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Rabin, will be created in the Labor Party? Peres answered, and I am again quoting: I am against a triumvirate. I have already had experience with a triumvirate: one side in Sede Boqer -- the reference is to the late David Ben-Gurion; a second side in Zahala -- the reference is to the late Moshe Dayan; and the third side -- namely Shim'on Peres himself -- did all the work and paid for it.

Those Labor Party members who heard this, say that Shim'on Peres is fighting against labels being attached to him; thus, he may be able to rid himself of one which claims that Peres was appointed only because of his greed for power. He also reserves to himself the option to initiate such a move without having, if such indeed develops, to give up his place at the head of the Alignment's list. This, it is said in the Labor Party, is the more effective and sophisticated reply to Yitzhaq Rabin, since the possible candidacy of the president seems to be gaining wide acceptance in the party and among the public.

Peres and Navon are not only personal friends but have also been veteran ideological partners since the days when they worked together alongside the late David Ben-Gurion. The two will continue to cooperate if and when they find themselves together at the top of the Alignment's Knesset list.

As for Yitzhaq Navon: The president says very determinably in meetings with Labor Party members that as long as he serves in his present position, he does not want his name mentioned in this context at all. He firmly states that as long as he is president, he will not join any political or other activity.

When asked on our "Moqed" program on New Year's Eve when he will decide whether he will agree to another term as president, Navon said: in January or February. So, about 3 months are left before we learn for sure whether Yitzhaq Navon will be president or a possible Labor Party candidate for the prime minister's post in Israel. [end videotape]

Peres Reacts to Report

TA261909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] In reaction to a television report aired this evening, Shim'on Peres told our correspondent Amnon Nadav that the remarks broadcast by the television were taken out of context. He was speaking among friends in a manner which did not constitute a final position or any change in his position. He is determined not to decide on his position or to express his view on this issue as long as Yitzhaq Navon is president.

PERES WARNS AGAINST LABOR PARTY INFIGHTING

TA282028 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 28 Nov 82

[Text] Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres has said that whoever tries to start fires, incite feelings and sow hatred in the Labor Party does not serve it. Speaking at a meeting of the Haifa district Labor Party, Peres called on the party to stop dealing with itself and said that the right party only wins if the will of the opposing camp is broken. He stressed that in the Labor Party there is no small amount of defeatism, fear and account settling [heshbon]. MK Peres repeated the remarks he made at the Alignment faction session that there are members who have not entered battle with the Likud for 5 years.

YOSEF HARIF CRITICIZES 'SHULTZ PLAN'

TA241223 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Nov 82 p 5

[Commentary by Yosef Harif: "Shultz Ignored the Request" -- passages between slant-lines published in boldface]

[Text] In one of his last talks with Secretary of State George Shultz, Israeli Ambassador to Washington Prof Moshe Arens brought up the question of statements by State Department officials on the affairs of the region, especially the statement by Shultz himself that it is impossible to force peace on Lebanon.

Admitting all the difficulties which do exist on this issue, why should you declare this in public? the ambassador asked, and asked Shultz to refrain from this since such declarations, especially if they come from such a highly-placed source, will not encourage Lebanon to reach an agreement with Israel, even one less than a formal peace.

But it does not seem as if the State Department has changed its ways or statements since Ambassador Arens made this request. Moreover, they have begun counting Israel's sins -- "settlements," "rejecting the Reagan plan," -- as a sign of unwillingness to reach an agreement, up to the last sin about the so-called attack on "academic freedom" in Judaea and Samaria, while every honest person knows that this is not true. And surely George Shultz, who is described as pleasant and sincere, also knows the truth: There is no intention to limit academic freedom. There is only one intention: not to allow academic freedom to be exploited for subversive and hostile activity against Israel.

But all this argument about this or that detail misses the real target behind the latest moves and steps of the State Department which, when put together, give a clear picture of where George Shultz, who is described today by the U.S. press as the man closest to President Reagan, is heading.

The reason which caused Ambassador Arens to ask George Shultz to refrain from certain statements, is the same one which made Shultz make them, knowingly and deliberately.

It is not by chance that the U.S. press has begun calling the plan, which up until now carried the name of President Reagan, the "Shultz plan." This is a plan which in its essence is designed to take Judaea and Samaria out of the hands of Israel and pass it to Jordan, while solving the Palestinian problem by establishing a sort of "confederation" with a Palestinian entity, headed by 'Arafat (at this stage it would not be called "a Palestinian state").

This is exactly the policy George Shultz has been after since he came into office a few months ago, and which he is trying to implement step by step.

Therefore, it was very naive to expect Shultz to refrain from statements of the kind that peace cannot be forced on Lebanon. For him, the problem is not Lebanon, but how to use Lebanon in order to gain the support of the Arab world, chiefly Syria and the PLO.

Those frequenting the State Department tell of how the "pleasant and honest" Shultz acts quietly, almost in hiding, but systematically, in order to achieve one goal: the implementation of the /Shultz plan./

Up until now, he has scored one main achievement: He succeeded in harnessing President Reagan to his plan, who in all his moves up until Shultz entered the State Department, was reacting from a "pro-Israeli instinct" as put by the U.S. TIME magazine, in every Middle East issue. It was convenient to the U.S. secretary of state for the plan to carry the name of the President. This way, it was easier to arouse sympathy for it in the House, Senate and among U.S. public opinion, and what is no less important, among /U.S. Jewry./ It is still remembered how President Reagan's impressive announcement was accepted when he announced "his plan" on television.

But since then, several planned moves have gone wrong for Shultz: Contrary to his expectations, the deal made by his envoy Veliotis with King Husayn, before the "Reagan plan" saw the light of day, was not carried out. Husayn did not hurry to the negotiating table.

Therefore, Israel cannot be directly accused that the postponement was caused by its refusal to accept the Reagan plan. The attempts to influence Husayn in this matter did not succeed. His claim was that as long as the PLO, or more specifically 'Arafat, refuse to authorize him to represent its affairs, he could not come to the negotiating table. When it was discovered that even 'Arafat's visit to Amman, which was accompanied by hugs and kisses, did not contribute to their getting closer, the State Department people, headed by Shultz personally, all joined together to bring about the match between the two -- Husayn and 'Arafat.

This is the reason that Shultz personally harnessed himself to the anti-Israeli campaign, whose main aim is to prove to 'Arafat that it will be worth his while to patch up his differences with Husayn, because only in this way will he achieve his goals.

Shultz' statements about the settlements, which in themselves, according to him, constitute the obstacle for the agreement, and on the issue of damaging "academic freedom" (only because Israel is asking that foreign lecturers not take part in hostile activity) -- two things which are designed to illustrate to 'Arafat that Washington is with him, and only one "small step" on his side and the United States will agree to talk with him in a more open way -- parallel to this step, the United States is acting behind the scenes in some Arab countries, foremost in Saudi Arabia, so that they will try to influence 'Arafat into agreeing to give Husayn a "letter of authorization" to handle the Palestinian issue. If Husayn only comes into the negotiations with the Israelis in the framework of the autonomy talks, the United States will know how to handle the Israelis....

And so, behind the quiet expression of the man who came to politics from the academic world, behind the visual calm and sincere facade, there hides a strong and influential personality in the U.S. administration -- George Shultz.

The United States knows that /only/ because of Israel, which paid a high price in blood in Lebanon, did it receive its present status. Administration officials admit, in talks not to be publicized, that Israel broke the PLO, and only because of this can the United States maneuver not only with Husayn but almost with the whole Arab League, which has begun seeing Washington as an address for every agreement. As expressed by Billy Quandt (who was one of the senior officials in the Carter administration), the United States succeeded in taking the fruits of the victory in Lebanon out of the hands of Israel and using this victory in order to advance its own interests. And, we would add, at the expense of basic Israeli interests.

George Shultz is not daunted by the idea of confrontation with Israel. On the contrary, it seems at times that he is comfortable with the small confrontations because they now serve nicely for his central aim -- to force Israel to "talk with /Husayn/", knowing that Menahem Begin, and not only him, "will never speak to the PLO."

It seems that those making policies in Israel were not quite alert to George Shultz' moves, but there are already signs of sobering up.

POLL NOTES 'MARKED DECLINE' IN LIKUD SUPPORT

TA230949 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 23 Nov 82 p 3

[Report by political correspondent Mark Segal]

[Text] Tel Aviv -- There has been a marked decline over the past three months in the number of Israelis satisfied with the government's performance. However, there seems to be no reflection of this trend in terms of replacing the Likud government. Indeed the number of those favouring early elections has declined since September.

This emerged from THE JERUSALEM POST poll conducted by the Modi'in Ezrahi Research Institute among a representative sample of 1,255 adults between the last week in October and the first week of November.

It was compared to two parallel polls conducted before and after the Beirut massacre in September, and to a survey in August.

Question: How do you rate the government's performance?

	October	September Post-massacre	September Pre-massacre	August
Well or very well	45.7	49.4	56.6	66.0
So-so	32.2	29.7	28.7	21.6
Badly	17.0	18.5	11.5	9.6
Undecided	5.1	2.4	3.2	2.8

Institute Director Dr Sara Shemer noted that, while just under half the public was satisfied with the government's performance, there had been a drop in their numbers since August. She thought there was a connection between this decline and the drop in the Likud's support from 66 mandates in August to 60 in October.

Question: Are you for or against replacing the government in the framework of the present Knesset?

	All Respondents	Pro-Likud	Pro-Labour
Yes, by a government of national unity	21.1	16.2	18.1
Yes, by a Labour government	15.3	0.8	62.4
Yes, another government	8.2	0.8	6.8
No, against	50.8	80.8	10.0
Undecided	4.6	1.4	2.7

Half the public does not want to change the government in the present Knesset, one-fifth would like a national coalition, but only 15 percent want a Labour government. Dr Shemer noted the similar ratio of support among both parties' supporters for a national unity government.

Question: Are you for or against early elections?

	October	September (Pre-massacre)
For	46.9	66.6
Against	48.6	26.9
Undecided	4.5	6.5

Noting the almost clear split in public opinion on this matter, Dr Shemer saw a connection with the events around the Beirut massacre. Analysing positions according to party affiliation she found that the main change had taken place in the Likud camp with 68 percent favouring early elections in September and 34 percent today. Among Labour supporters the ratio dropped from 81 percent in September to 73 percent now.

In a poll conducted in Dahaf for the new weekly newspaper KOTERET RASHIT, whose first edition is due to appear on December 1, more than 1,000 people were asked: "When there are contradictions between statements by Defence Minister Ari'el Sharon and Chief of Staff Refa'el Eytan who do you believe? 60 percent said that they believed Eytan, 25 percent believed Sharon and 15 percent didn't answer.

ATTEMPT TO CONVENE 19TH OAU SUMMIT FAILS

Moi Continues as Chairman

EA261218 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Excerpt] An attempt to convene the 19th summit of heads of state and government to the OAU has failed for the second time in 3 months due to a lack of quorum, despite tireless efforts by President Daniel arap Moi, who apparently now is the longest serving current chairman of the OAU, to raise a quorum for the summit in Tripoli for the last 4 days. The 32 [number as heard] members present at an informal meeting last night resolved that President Moi should continue to hold the office until a summit is held.

President Moi, who leaves the Libyan capital early this morning for Nairobi, accepted the responsibility and also agreed to chair a contact committee which has been charged with the task of ensuring the reconvening of a successful OAU summit. The committee will also identify a venue for the summit. Libya has again offered to host the meeting for the third time. At his strongly worded address to the informal meeting, the Libyan leader, Col Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, said the failure of the OAU summit in his capital was partly due to his determination to adhere to his principles.

Closing the meeting, President Mao paid tribute to the OAU member states, for giving the organization a further chance of proving to the world that African solidarity will always prevail. He regretted that his appeal to some states to come to Tripoli for the 19th OAU summit had not been taken seriously. President Moi noted that the enemies of Africa who wanted to see the collapse of the OAU must now be ashamed.

Some people, he added, had even prepared obituaries hoping that the OAU would collapse but because of the wisdom of African leaders efforts now will be intensified to make sure that the obstacles facing the organization were removed. The president reminded the OAU member states that the body was established to act as a catalyst for a speedier realization of the liberation of Africa. He added the task of liberating the continent from colonial oppression had not been completed yet. Development strategies supported by the OAU have not been realized, he said, pledging the total commitment of the new contact group in ensuring the survival of the OAU.

President Moi thanked his colleagues who had closely associated themselves with the problems of obtaining a quorum for the Tripoli meeting and noted that their concern for the organization gave rise to renewed spirit to the organization of the OAU. President Moi also thanked the host government for excellent facilities placed at the disposal of the delegates both at the conference hall and in their hotels.

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Leaders

LD261554 Tripoli JANA in English 1421 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Tripoli, Safar 10, Nov 26, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1st September Revolution, expressed in his address before the 31-participant African leaders for showing sufficient courage to declare the 19th African summit a failure for the second time.

He said: "This failure has nothing to do with us here because of our strong will and courage to attend this summit twice. Those who are weak have failed to come to Tripoli. It seems that coming to Tripoli also needs courage, but those who have failed lacked the courage to come to this capital which strongly resists imperialism, reaction and racism at all fronts."

Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi delivered a speech at the end of the meeting of 31 African leaders here pointing out that Libya has not been defeated. He said: "Had we wished to confer with the absentees it would have meant a renunciation of our principles and revolutionary stands."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added: "This is the reason for not reaching the necessary quorum. Had we not upheld our principles we would have recognised the mutiny in Chad and overlooked the Transitional Government of National Unity in Chad, which enjoys legitimacy if only for the fact that Goukouni Oueddei is the founder of the national liberation movement in Chad, Frolinat. It is impossible to renounce Goukouni even if he is left abandoned without the support of guns and soldiers. We do not concede usurpation because that would lead to the recognition of the Zionist usurpation of Palestine and the racist usurpation of South Africa."

Colonel Mu'ammarr al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great al-Fateh Revolution, said that the African economic, social and liberational problems, which are considered vital to the African citizens, have been ignored.

In his address before 31 African leaders in Tripoli, he said that the African economic, social and liberation interests have been victimised as a result of some cheap political stands that only serve the enemies of Africa. "African unity has also been sacrificed for the sake of such stands."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added that he had taken a moral stand which urged the Polisario leaders to declare their non-participation. He said: "I might have harmed the Saharan Arab Republic by trying to serve the African Continent."

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added that he would now lift the pressure from the Saharan Republic and told the participants: "I would like to refer to what I told you last August that Libya is committed and that it would not take part in any new summit unless the Saharan Democratic Republic participates as a full member."

Speaking at the concluding session of the meeting of 31 African leaders, Colonel al-Qadhdhafi asked whether the abstention of member states means that those present, who represent a clear majority in Africa, are incapable of doing anything for the people of Namibia who are at this minute engaged in combat against racist imperialism. He queried: "Does support for the Namibian people require a legal quorum in accordance with the O.A.U. Charter? Does a social programme involving the nutrition of millions of African children subjected to death by endemic diseases require a quorum?"

Colonel al-Qadhdhafi added: "I do not believe the fight against disease, imperialism or backwardness requires a quorum. It is unfortunate that we have packed our files and reports with such speed and ease in disregard of the power of those of us present here. We have overlooked the fact that there are those who wish to mock our effort and ridicule our inability to deliberate even on social, economic and liberation issues."

The members who have not attended the 19th summit intended the action to be an insult to more than one African state. As far as Libya is concerned it will not be affected."

The leader added that it had become crystal clear that holding the summit in Libya was not an easy task. "Had it been another capital, not as free and as revolutionary as Tripoli, the task would have been easy."

He added Libya's presidency of the O.A.U. too is not an easy matter. He added: "This tiny capital, Tripoli, is fighting Washington, Paris, Tel Aviv and Pretoria in addition to other reactionary and colonialist capitals. I, from the very beginning, admired the courage of those delegations who have come twice to Libya. They deserve the admiration of all the Libyans. Those cowards who were frightened to come to Tripoli are the slaves who have succumbed to their masters."

It is a great honour and support for Libya to host, in less than six years, [as received] this great number of African presidents and delegations. America and her agents and the agents of France, Zionism and local reaction -- Sudan, Somalia and Morocco -- were trying to isolate Libya, but what happened was the opposite. Libya is being supported by the extreme majority of the African countries. Twice in one year Libya has won over those who wanted to isolate her," he added.

In his address at the final session of the meeting of 31 African leaders here yesterday the revolution's leader spoke about the compromise solution regarding Chad. He said this solution has now been dropped since it has not succeeded in bringing about the necessary quorum.

He added: "A number of states have announced their withdrawal of the compromise solution regarding Chad. Thus, the balance will return to its previous state of continued struggle for power in Chad and of Chad's representation by the delegation of the Transitional Government for National Unity under the leadership of Goukouni Oueddei."

Commenting on future prospects for an O.A.U. summit he said: "It appears that an African summit will not be held in the future and there will be no possibility of holding any such summit unless those present tonight decide to accept the membership of the Transitional Government of National Unity and the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. This is the only solution left for the holding of a summit with the required quorum set by the charter."

This very fact prevents the holding of a future summit because there will be objections against the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, as was the case last August, the quorum will not be reached and the summit will ultimately fail. The same will happen if Goukouni Oueddei's government participated. Likewise, with the attendance of the government of renegade Habre we have withdrawn our consent to the compromise solution.

Thus, the African summit will never convene and African unity is now seriously threatened unless we grant recognition to the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and we all recognise either one of the Chadian delegations.

Libya, like you, will shoulder its responsibility courageously when it decides which side to support."

Colonel Mu'ammr al-Qadhafi added: "It seems as if holding the summit is the main preoccupation. I would like to say, though I know that Libya is nominated for the presidency, this summit is not that important and that reaching a quorum is only a formality, the essence of the matter being to face the economic, social and liberational problems of Africa."

He added that Libya would not agree to an African unity on an empty slogan nor would it preside over the organization merely for the sake of presidency since the presidency itself is not of paramount importance. He pointed out that he had personally renounced the presidency in Libya.

The leader also referred in his speech to Zaire's recognition of the Zionist state saying that "I do not like to be in unity with a country that recognises our bitter enemy. I as an Arab, I do not accept anyone who recognizes Israel. Zionism is our common enemy. We, with our black South Africans, fight against the racist regime of South Africa, the other twin of the Zionist regime in occupied Palestine. We will never recognise the racist regime of South Africa and we will carry on fighting it till the end. I cannot go to the U.N. and represent a country that recognizes Israel. We go there to fight Zionism, racism and imperialism. This revolutionary policy has led those who are not concerned with African interests and problems to boycott this summit."

Declaration on South Africa

LD271614 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 27 Nov 82

[Declaration on South Africa issued by the African heads of states and governments at the conclusion of their meetings in Tripoli on 25 November]

[Text] The heads of African states and governments who met in Libya 23-25 November 1982, having heard the statements made by the representatives of the national liberation movements in South Africa, out of their conviction that the collective political mobilization campaign being waged by the liberation movements in South Africa and the intensive armed attacks against militarily and economically strategic installations being carried out by the ANC constitute a new phase in which the vigilance and sacrifice of the oppressed people have reached unparalleled heights of struggle worthy of further support, out of their conviction that the so-called constitution changes or reforms introduced by the Pretoria regime which give the Indian and colored communities limited political rights rendering them liable for military conscription was a sinister maneuver intended to trick the world public opinion which consecrating apartheid, while expressing their profound concern over the presentation of the tribal forces system in the so-called native settlements as a tool for undermining stability in the neighboring independent countries -- the heads of African states and governments express their indignation at the policy of the Reagan administration epitomized by the so-called constructive commitment to southern Africa and which has led to the intensification of economic, military and nuclear cooperation with the racist discrimination regime and also at the campaign being waged by the United States to reinstate the Pretoria regime and affirm their conviction that the bolstering of the ties between the U.S. Administration and the South African regime has intensified the latter's obduracy and encouraged it to escalate its savage suppressive operations against the opponents of apartheid and to undermine the stability of the neighboring and Indian Ocean countries and commit aggression against them.

The heads of the African states and governments note with indignation the unfriendly act committed by the United States, the West German Republic, Britain and other Western countries in encouraging the IMF to grant a considerable loan to South Africa -- a matter which constitutes a challenge to the resolutions of the UN General Assembly -- in order to help finance that regime's program of aggression and suppression.

1. The heads of the African states and governments salute the ANC for intensifying the political mobilization of the masses and for the armed attacks waged by the congress' military wing against military and economic installations.
2. They warmly greet the Indian and Colored communities and their rejection of the partitioning schemes being carried out by the regime with the aim of dividing the ranks of the national front opposing apartheid and involving them as allies in the repressive war against the blacks.
3. They strongly condemn the apartheid regime's intransigence and its cultural maneuvering represented by its attempts to involve a section of the black group with the aim of causing racial dispute between the blacks at a time when it persistently rejects the principle of public referendum, thereby contributing to maintaining the present situation of apartheid.
4. They strongly denounce the continuing division of South Africa, the imposition of tribal authorities, evicting and expelling millions of African inhabitants through the Bantu policy.
5. They renew their appeal to all governments to frankly refuse to recognize or establish relations with the Bantustans or other institutions belonging to them.
6. They call on the international community to double material aid to the national liberation movement in order to enhance its ability to strike at the enemy and ensure escalating its military struggle against the apartheid regime.
7. They declare that the policy of Reagan's administration, which is based on friendship and alliance with Africa's biggest enemy, that is the apartheid regime, is a policy hostile to the aspirations of the African people and the world community.
8. They strongly condemn the continuing cooperation between Reagan's administration with the apartheid regime in the economic, military and nuclear spheres.
9. They call upon all member states and trade unions in Africa to consult with the United African Trade Union and the committee on apartheid and the council on Namibia to take appropriate measures in order to ensure the success of the international conference of trade unions by mobilizing world opinion in order to apply sanctions against South Africa.
10. They reaffirm that peace, stability and security cannot be established in southern Africa and in the whole of Africa unless the inhuman apartheid regime is eliminated and is replaced by a democratic, nonracial state in South Africa.
11. They praise the UN Committee on Combatting Apartheid for the activities it is carrying out in order to mobilize support for the liberation struggle in South Africa.
12. They welcome the decision by the major petroleum exporting countries to hold an international conference in order to study national and international arrangements that would ensure the effective application of the decisions to ban oil supplies to South Africa.
13. They strongly support the intensive campaign launched by the UN Committee on Combatting Apartheid for the release of Nelson Mandela and all African political detainees in South Africa.

14. They strongly condemn the IMF's decision to grant a substantial loan to the Pretoria regime and call on the member states, in coordination with the nonaligned states, to seek to expel this racist regime from the fund.
15. They call on the African group at the United Nations to seek to hold a meeting of the Security Council at the earliest possible opportunity in order to impose total and mandatory sanctions against South Africa.
16. They praise those governments, nongovernmental organizations, artists and athletes who have taken positive action by boycotting South Africa in accordance with the OAU and UN resolutions.
17. They express their regret for the participation by some artists and athletes in artistic or sports demonstrations in racist South Africa and appeal to them to refrain from any dealing with the apartheid regime.

'Tripoli Declaration' Issued

LD261936 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 26 Nov 82

["Text" of "Tripoli declaration" issued by the African heads of state following their meetings in Tripoli on 26 November]

[Text] We, the African heads of state and government, who have met in Tripoli, Libya, from 23 to 26 November 1982 to take part in the 19th ordinary session of the conference of the heads of state and governments; while we recall the Na'robi resolution concerning the venue for the 19th ordinary session of the conference of the heads of state and governments in Tripoli, and while we observe with displeasure that the two attempts to hold the 19th ordinary session of the conference of heads of state and governments in Tripoli, Libya, had failed, regrettably; while we are fully aware of our responsibility and commitment in accordance with the charter; and while we express profound regret over the absence and nonparticipation of some member states resulting in a lack of quorum, a matter that tends to expose the OAU to danger and dissolution if it continues; while we are aware of the tireless efforts by the states present in Tripoli to ensure full participation in the 19th summit conference; while we express our appreciation for the good efforts of the liaison committee composed of Tanzania, Mozambique, Zambia, Libya, the Congo, and Mali to ensure attendance and participation by all member states and; while we appreciate the delicate and urgent issues which confront Africa, particularly the liberation of Namibia, west Africa and Western Sahara, Chad and Palestine, and the aggression of South Africa against confrontation states and the occupation of a part of Angolan territory and problems of economic and social development in Africa;

1. Praise the liaison committee for the successful efforts to ensure the participation of the largest number of delegations during the convening of the 39th ordinary session of the Council of Ministers and the 19th ordinary session of the summit of the African heads of state and governments.
2. Express their appreciation and satisfaction with the decision of the SDAR to refrain voluntarily and temporarily from participation in the 19th summit meeting.

3. Deeply regret the sudden way in which some member states have stopped their participation, a matter that resulted in making it impossible to hold the 19th ordinary session of the conference of the heads of state and governments.

4. Decided to make more efforts to hold the 19th ordinary session of the conference of the heads of state and governments in accordance with the resolutions of the Nairobi summit and in realization of this purpose decided to form a liaison committee composed of Kenya as chairman, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Tanzania, the Congo, the Jamahiriyyah, Nigeria, Uganda, Angola, Zambia, Mozambique and Mali.

Also agree to the following:

1. That the powers of the current chairman should continue until the convening of the 19th ordinary session
2. That the powers of the secretary general and his assistants should be extended until it becomes possible to hold the summit conference and hold elections in accordance with the rules of the charter
3. That it becomes incumbent on all member states to urgently meet their financial commitments toward the organization to ensure the continuation of the work of the General Secretariat and the other bodies of the OAU in an ordinary way
4. That the 20th anniversary of the OAU should be celebrated at its main headquarters in Addis Ababa
5. That the current chairman should call on the secretariat to prepare the social and economic development programs of the peoples of Africa in the following fields:
 - A. An expanded program of vaccination for Africa
 - B. To combat deep-rooted diseases in Africa
 - C. To protect motherhood and childhood and promote family planning
 - D. To develop the working forces in the health field
6. That they denounce the Zionist aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese people, especially the extermination to which the Sabra and Shatila camps were exposed, and demand the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of the aggressors from Lebanese territory and also from all the occupied Arab areas.
7. That they reaffirm their support for the heroic and just struggle of the Palestinian people under the leadership of their sole representative, the PLO, for self-determination and return to their homeland and the right to establish an independent state in Palestine.

Declaration on Namibia

LD262040 Tripoli JANA in English 1843 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Tripoli, Safar 10, Nov 26, Jamahiriyyah News Agency -- The heads of African governments and states meeting here issued the Tripoli declaration on Namibia. Following is its full text:

"The heads of African states and governments who met in Tripoli, Libya, from November 22nd to 25th, 1982 hereby remind of all the earlier resolutions issued by the OAU and the U.N. and all the African declarations and statements, especially the final statement passed by the heads of governments and states of the front line countries and the leader of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] in Lusaka on September 4th 1982. They also stress that the continued illegal occupation by South Africa and its colonisation of Namibia, in defiance of the repeated OAU, Non-aligned Movement and UN resolutions, are an aggressive act against the Namibian people and a challenge of Africa and UN authority which is the direct responsible body on Namibia until its independence is realised.

They also reiterate their total support for the armed struggle waged by the Namibian people led by SWAPO, the sole and true representative for self determination, freedom and national independence in a united Namibia.

They further express their anger at South Africa's lack of respect to the resolutions passed on many occasions by the U.N. Security Council, especially Resolution 358, 1976 and 485, 1978 regarding its continuous unfulfilled promises aimed at prolonging its barbaric dominance and exploitation of the Namibian people as was proved recently during the deliberations for the implementation of the UN plan on Namibian independence.

They also express their concern regarding U.S. and racist South Africa's attempts for hegemony aimed at linking Namibia's independence talks to external issues such as the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

They hereby condemn the aggressive and sabotage activities of the racist South African regime against the independent African regime against countries in South Africa, especially the occupation of parts of Angolan territory, the support of armed gangs in these countries and the sabotage of vital installations.

They are aware that there are preparations currently taking place at the UN in collaboration with the OAU and SWAPO to hold a conference at UNESCO house in Paris in support of the Namibian people's independence between April 25th and 29th, 1983.

[Tripoli JANA in Arabic at 1800 GMT on 26 November 1982 carries the declaration on Namibia issued by the OAU heads of state and government. This version is identical to the JANA English version except for the following additional passages]

1. They reaffirm the Namibian people's firm right to self-determination and the attainment of national liberty and independence in a united Namibia in accordance with the UN and OAU charters.
2. They strongly condemn the South African regime's unlawful occupation of Namibia and its oppressive practices against the Namibian people.
3. They reaffirm their full support for the armed struggle waged by the Namibian people led by the SWAPO organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people, for self-determination, for liberty and national independence in a united Namibia, including the coastal islands of "Walvis Bahand" [as received; presumably Walvis Bay], which would enjoy complete security in exercising its sovereignty.

4. They recall that, in accordance with United Nations General Assembly Resolution 2145 Namibia would come under the direct responsibility of the United Nations until the country's self-determination, and true national independence are achieved. Therefore they strongly support the authority entrusted to the UN Council on Namibia in accordance with resolution 2248 dated 19 May 1976 and subsequent United Nations General Assembly resolutions regarding the administrative legislative authority for Namibia.

5. They reaffirm that UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978, which gave approval to the UN plan for Namibia's independence, still remains the only basis for finding a peaceful solution to the Namibian issue and they call for its immediate implementation without modification or revision.

6. They declare that true independence for Namibia can only be attained through SWAPO'S full and direct participation in all the endeavors which aim at implementing the UN plan on Namibia's independence. They reemphasize that the only contending parties in Namibia are South Africa as the unlawful occupation force and the Namibian people led by SWAPO.

7. They express their high estimation of the frontline countries and SWAPO for their constructive position, distinguished by sound political judgment throughout the period of consultations regarding the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978.

9. [number as received] They condemn the racist regime in South Africa and the United States in particular for their attempts to create any kind of link or balance between the independence of Namibia and the withdrawal of the Cuban forces from Angola, which is contradictory to clause 7, article 2 of the UN Charter. They firmly stress that the continuation of these attempts constitutes not only a form of domination of the Namibian region for the purpose of prolonging the unlawful occupation of Namibia and oppressing its citizens, but also constitutes blatant interference in the internal affairs of Angola.

8. [number as received] They endorse the final statement approved by the frontline heads of state and government and the SWAPO chairman in Lusaka, Zambia, on 4 September 1982.

10. They call on the UN Security Council to shoulder its responsibilities in accordance with all the rulings of the UN Charter pertaining to the implementation of the UN plan for Namibian independence without any further delay.

11. They strongly condemn the persistent aggressive military acts and economic sabotage carried out by South Africa's racist regime against the independent African states in Africa and demand the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of South African forces which still occupy part of Angolan territory, and to put an end to supporting the armed gangs and mercenaries in many countries.

12. They denounce all the constitutional and political schemes through which the unlawful and racist regime in South Africa attempts to consolidate its colonialist dominance over Namibia. They particularly urge all states not to recognize any administration or body appointed by the unlawful South African regime in Namibia, in violation of the UN resolutions on Namibia, and especially Security Council Resolutions 345 and 349 of 1978.

13. They renew their pledge to provide more material, financial, military, political and humanitarian aid to SWAPO in order to escalate the struggle to achieve Namibia's complete liberation.

14. They fully support the preparations currently made by the United Nations in cooperation with the OAU and consultation with SWAPO for the convention of an international conference at the UNESCO headquarters in Paris in support of the Namibian people's struggle for independence, during the period from 25-29 April 1983.

ALGERIAFOREIGN MINISTRY: ARAB TALKS WITH UK CANCELLED

LD290850 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 29 Nov 82

[Text] Algiers, 29 Nov [APS] -- Following the refusal of the British authorities to receive a PLO representative within the seven-member Arab committee, the spokesman of the Algerian Foreign Ministry has made the following statement:

The seven-member committee will not go to London because of the British Government's refusal to receive a PLO representative. This stand is what Algeria has persistently defended. It is worth noting that the seven-member committee was entrusted by the Arab summit in Fes with explaining the Arab peace plan to the governments of the permanent member states of the UN Security Council and to enlighten them on the basic interests of the Palestinian Resistance.

The mission of the committee to London would have no meaning except to the extent to which the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the directly concerned party in any process which aims to achieve a just and durable peace in the Middle East, can make the voice of the Palestinian people appropriately heard.

Algeria, as a member of the committee, feels that as long as the British Government refuses to receive the Palestinian representative within the seven-member committee, the mission of this committee in London has become irrelevant.

TUNISIAFOREIGN MINISTER ON FRENCH MIDDLE EAST ROLE

NC291022 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 22-28 Nov 82

[By MONDAY MORNING's Europe correspondent]

[Text] The Tunisian foreign minister told MONDAY MORNING in Paris last week that only the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) could empower Jordan to negotiate with Israel on behalf of the Palestinians.

Foreign Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi, member of the seven-man peace plan to the world's major powers, made the statement after the committee's talks with French President Francois Mitterrand.

In an interview at the Paris Plaza Athenee, Es-Sebsi underscored the importance of the role France could play in the search for Middle East peace.

France, he said, was in an excellent position to play a role because its dialogue lines were open "with both parties involved in the Middle East conflict -- Israel on the one hand and the Palestinians on the other," and because "France has always stated that it recognizes the right of the Palestinians to self-determination." The U.S. so far refuses to hold talks with the PLO and has stopped short of supporting the Palestinian right to self-determination.

Praising the Mitterrand administration's "very correct relations with the PLO," Es-Sebsi expressed the wish that France would take another step in the Palestinian organization's direction.

Although Mitterrand did meet with PLO political chief Faruq Qaddumi in his capacity as member of the Fes committee last week, Es-Sebsi said, "we certainly wish, very strongly, that (PLO) Chairman (Yasir) 'Arafat could be received in France in the proper way." France has so far failed to extend an official invitation to the PLO leader.

"We believe there will never be a solution to the Middle East problem if the PLO is not involved in all phases of the negotiations," the Tunisian minister said. Washington was urging King Husayn of Jordan to negotiate with Israel on behalf of the Palestinians, "but the Jordanians are members of the Arab League.... They abide by the Fes decisions, and also by the decisions of the 1974 Rabat summit, which named the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians."

He added: "Now, if the PLO wants to entrust any Arab country to talk on its behalf, that is something else. But in our view -- and Jordan is totally in agreement -- the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians," and any further policy decisions on this matter were "up to the Arab heads of state."

The following is the full text of the interview:

[Question] What was the aim of the Arab League delegation's visit to the French president, and what was achieved in the talks?

[Answer] The seven-member committee was formed by the Fes Arab summit to explain the peace plan adopted by a consensus of the Arab heads of state in Fes. For the first time, the Arab countries have a peace plan, and it is important to explain it, especially to countries that are members of the Security Council, because this Arab peace plan in fact entrusts the Security Council with a mission: The UN Security Council has to set a guarantee for peace to countries of the Middle East, and it also has to supervise the implementation of this plan. It was hence normal to come and visit the permanent members of the UN Security Council to explain this plan to them and tell them what we expect from them.

We came to France after visiting the U.S.A. This was the second phase of our visit. We met with President Mitterrand and French authorities, explained to them the positive aspects of this plan and told them that if this plan is correctly implemented, peace will be secured in the area.

It was also an opportunity for the French president to reaffirm the French position on the Middle East problem.

We were received by the highest authority with great understanding, and we leave Paris with the impression that our explanatory mission was well accomplished.

[Question] What do you expect from France?

[Answer] France is a UN Security Council member. It has a role to play in this respect. Also, it has a particular stand on this Middle East question. We think France has the capacity of dialogue with both parties involved in the Middle East conflict -- Israel on the one hand and the Palestinians on the other. Fortunately, France has a position that enables her to play a positive role in this regard, in striving for the achievement of the principles of the United Nation. France has always stated that it recognizes the right of the Palestinians to self-determination.

[Question] President Mitterrand, despite France's pro-Arab policy, is hesitating to receive Yasir 'Arafat. As foreign minister of the country which is now hosting Chairman 'Arafat, did you try to convince the French authorities of the need to arrange such a meeting?

[Answer] I do not like the word "pro-Arab." I think the Arabs have a just cause, and if France or anybody else deems it necessary to support his cause, it does so not because it is an Arab cause but because it is a just cause. We believe that all countries that cling to some principles have to support just causes. France has been sensitive to this cause because it believes that the Palestinian cause is just and is tied to the principles and tradition of French foreign policy.

Indeed, France today has very correct relations with the PLO. Today, at the table of President Mitterrand, one of the seven members of the Arab committee was Faruq Qaddumi, who is a prominent member of the political section of the PLO. France is also present in Lebanon as part of the multinational force contributing to the return of normal life in Lebanon. Everyone knew that France's presence was wanted by all parties, specifically the Palestinians.

France has a dialogue with Israel and with the PLO, as I said, so it is in a good position to play a role. We want the PLO to be real partners in the solution of the Middle East crisis. We believe that there will never be a solution to the Middle East problem if the PLO is not involved in all phases of the negotiations.

We certainly wish, very strongly, that Chairman 'Arafat could be received in France in the proper way.

[Question] The Elysee spokesman told us that in his talks with you, the French president mentioned the Egyptian-French initiative for a Middle Eastern solution. Could you tell us in what context that subject was brought up?

[Answer] I think you have to ask the Elysee. But anyway, the French policy is known. France also has other initiatives -- not only the Egyptian-French initiative. There was the French initiative at the Security Council, which got a U.S. veto.

As for this specific project, the Egyptian-French project which has been submitted to the Security Council, one must admit that this initiative is somewhat depasse in certain aspects: a cease-fire in Lebanon, PLO withdrawal from Beirut -- this is history now.

However, we believe France is making an effort in the search for a just solution.

[Question] Last week, Henry Kissinger told THE ECONOMIST that it was crucial to a Middle East solution that Jordan be convinced that it has to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians on the autonomy issue. He added that President Reagan and Secretary Shultz were convinced of this. Can this be reconciled with the position of the Fes committee?

[Answer] Kissinger speaks from the U.S. point of view. I am Tunisian and my point of view is Arab. For us, the solution is the Arab peace plan of Fes. One should not ignore the Reagan plan, and we have not, but our solution is the Fes plan. In his statement last September, Reagan said that Jordan should negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians, but the Jordanians are members of the Arab League, and today they headed the seven-member delegation visiting here. They abide by the Fes decisions, and also by the decisions of the 1974 Rabat summit, which named the PLO as the sole legitimate representative on the Palestinians.

Now, if the PLO wants to entrust any Arab country to talk on its behalf, that is something else. But in our view -- and Jordan is totally in agreement -- the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinians.

[Question] Can the Fes committee envisage the PLO entrusting Jordan with the task as a first step?

[Answer] It cannot do this. The specific mission of this committee is to present and explain the Arab peace plan of Fes and get all the support it can for it. Where other matters are concerned, it is up to the Arab heads of state to decide on a definite policy.

[Question] Is there any scheduled visit by President Amin al-Jumayyil to President Bourguiba?

[Answer] President Amin al-Jumayyil is always welcome to visit Tunisia. It is up to him to decide. Tunisia will welcome him any time.

GHANANUNOO-MENSAH RESIGNS, REPLACED BY RAWLINGS

AB290626 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 29 Nov 82

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has accepted the resignation of Brigadier Nunoo-Mensah from the PNDC and from the post of chief of Defense Staff of the Ghana Armed Forces. In a letter accepting the resignation, the chairman expressed regret that Brigadier Nunoo-Mensah had chosen to issue selected diplomatic circles and the foreign press with copies of his letter of resignation before sending it to him. The chairman, who is also the commander in chief of the armed forces, has assumed the functions of the office of the chief of Defense Staff.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Defense has issued a list of nine persons who are at large and are wanted in connection with last week's abortive coup. They include Maj E.A. Mahama, Lt K.A. Korah, Lance Bombardier Douglas T. Ayesu, X.R.S.M. [former regimental sergeant major] Abu Baba and Second Lieutenant Acharna. The rest are Lance Bombardier Ahenkora, Lance Cpl K.M. Sedzroh, Lt Ampomah Nketiah and Maj Seidu Musah.

UPPER VOLTAJEAN-BAPTISTE OUEDRAOGO FORMS NEW GOVERNMENT

People's Salvation Council Created

AB262117 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Decree No 82001 of the People's Salvation Council [CSP] on the creation of a People's Salvation Council. The chairman of the CSP orders:

Article 1: A body called the People's Salvation Council has been created within the Upper Voltan Armed Forces.

Article 2: The People's Salvation Council is the supreme political body of the Upper Voltan state.

Article 3: The organization, running and composition of the People's Salvation Council will be determined by a head of state's decree.

Article 4: The present order will serve as a state law and will be published in official gazette of the republic.

Signed in Ouagadougou on 26 November 1982 by Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo

Provisional Council Dissolved

AB262120 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Decree No 82005 of the People's Salvation Council on the dissolution of the Provisional People's Salvation Council. The chairman of the People's Salvation Council orders:

Article 1: The Provisional People's Salvation Council, set up by Order No 82001, CPSP 7 November 1982, has been dissolved as of today.

Article 2: The present order will serve as a state law and will be published in the official gazette of the republic.

Signed in Ouagadougou on 26 November 1982, by Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo

New Government Announced

AB262129 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Text] Decree No 82002 of the People's Salvation Council [CSP] on the composition of the Government of Upper Volta. The chairman of the CSP decrees:

Article 1: The Government of Upper Volta is as follows:

Chairman of the CSP, head of state, minister of national defense and veteran affairs	Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo
Minister of the interior and security	Maj Harouna Tarnagda
Minister of justice and keeper of the seals	Mrs Marie-Louise Nignane Basele
Minister of foreign affairs and cooperation	Michel Kafando
Minister of economy and finance	Pascal Sanou
Minister of planning	Eugene Dondasse
Minister of rural development	Edouard Tapsoba
Minister of public health	Alain Ouedraogo
Minister of public works and town planning	Salikou Coulibaly
Minister of commerce, industry and mines	Clement Bambara
Minister of labor, social laws and civil service:	Jean Bado
Minister of information, posts and telecommunications	Adama Fofana
Minister of higher education and scientific research	Issa Tiendrebeogo
Minister of national education, arts and culture	Emmanuel Dadjouari
Minister of youth and sports	Ibrahima Kone
Minister of transport, environment and tourism	Frederic Korsaga
Minister of social affairs and women's affairs	Mrs Pauline Kambou
Secretary of state for economy and finance in charge of budget	Damou Justin Barro
Secretary of state for rural development in charge of water resources	Benjamin Bonkougou
Secretary of state for labor, social laws and civil service in charge of the civil service	Jean-Paul Sow Yacouba
General secretary of the government and the Council of Ministers	Jean de Dieu Somda

Article 2: The present decree, which takes effect from the date of signature, will be published in the official gazette of the republic.

Signed in Ouagadougou on 26 November 1982 by Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo

Permanent Secretariat Formed

AB262146 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 26 Nov 82

[Communique issued by the Provisional People's Salvation Council on 26 November in Ouagadougou]

[Text] From 22 to 26 November 1982, the deliberations of the general meeting of the Provisional People's Salvation Council and elected representatives of the corps were held in Ouagadougou. After extensive debates, the deliberations arrived at the following results:

- 1 -- Composition of the People's Salvation Council, CSP.
- 2 -- Election of the chairman of the CSP and head of state.
- 3 -- Creation of a Permanent Secretariat of the CSP and election of its members.
- 4 -- Creation of a control commission and election of its members.
- 5 -- The chairman of the CSP and head of state is Maj Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo.

Composition of the Permanent Secretariat is as follows:

Secretary general	Battalion Commander Jean-Baptiste Lingani Boukari
Deputy secretary general	2d Lt Hien Klimite
Member	Cpl Andre Bouda
Member	Battalion Commander Fidelle Geubre
Member	Sgt Georges Namoano
Member	2d Lt Daniel Traore Sidiki
Member	Cpl Issouf Belem
Member	WO Kabore Nazaire
Member	Capt Blaise Compaore
Member	Lt Soumaila Sarre
Member	Sgt Maj Kabea Kambou

- 6 -- The meeting heard the three officers that have been affected by Decree No 82187 Pres-CMRPN of 13 May 1982 and unanimously rehabilitated the two (?Europeans). After debating and adopting the statutes and rules and regulations of the council, the meeting examined and approved the composition of the Government of Upper Volta.

Signed in Ouagadougou, 26 November 1982 by the People's Salvation Council